

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Morris, CPA [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote AGAINST Graham-Cassidy!
Attachments: Senate Letter 2017-09-22.pdf

September 22, 2017

The Senate
GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

Re: Revised Senate Bill H.R. 1628 (Graham/Cassidy)

Dear Senators:

I write this letter to request you not repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (aka “Obamacare”) and not replace it with the Senate Bill H.R. 1628 as proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy.

I am a CPA in public practice and my office is in Duluth, GA. During 2005, while I was employed in a large real estate development company with great group health insurance benefits, my physician noticed my red blood cell count was slightly elevated. After multiple tests and visits with specialists, I was diagnosed with **polycythemia** – an increase in hemoglobin concentration in my blood. Since 2005, I have consistently tested just a couple of percentage points above normal and, while I have never taken any medication for this condition, exhibited any symptoms or missed any work days (except to take blood tests), I am considered at higher risk of a stroke.

Fast forward to 2011. Due to real estate and financial industry collapse beginning in 2008, I lost my job and decided to buy a modest CPA practice, and did so in January 2011. I was on my prior employer’s health insurance plan through COBRA but that was set to expire in October 2011. In April, I started to seek an individual health insurance plan to cover me, my wife and my daughter; and I used an insurance broker of substantial experience to help me. **I was not able to find any healthcare insurance plan at any price because I had a pre-existing blood disorder!** My wife was offered health coverage except for her spine – back problems were excluded from coverage for one year because she saw a chiropractor on sporadic occasions.

If Obamacare had not become law, I probably would not have obtained health insurance again in my lifetime.

The Senate now contemplates voting to repeal and/or replace Obamacare with this new version of H.R. 1628 as proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy. I’ve read the proposed legislation and **I see nothing in this that makes clear I will be able to obtain affordable comprehensive medical insurance coverage if this legislation is passed.** The insurance carriers and healthcare providers claim the proposed legislation will bifurcate the risk pool resulting in dramatic increases in premiums for covered lives with pre-existing conditions. If the industry tells Congress this will be the result of the legislation, make makes you think they are wrong? Why do you think you are better informed than healthcare experts?

I make a good living, but not enough to afford a “You’re On Your Own” plan as many pundits called AHCA/BCRA then and the current proposal now.

I know you feel compelled to keep a promise, but **are you listening to your constituency today?** I am one of your constituents and here is what I see:

(a) Major insurance industry groups have denounced this legislation,

- (b) Practically every healthcare provider group (hospitals and physicians) have voiced loud and repeated opposition starting with the American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association, and
- (c) Patient advocacy group has vehemently decried the current proposal.


I also see a poll was released today by Public Policy Polling (admittedly a left-leaning organization) which found:

- 54% of Americans (not Republicans, AMERICANS) approve of Obamacare and 38% are opposed.
- 51% of AMERICANS believe the proposed legislation would weaken protections for patients with pre-existing conditions (me included!).
- 69% of AMERICANS believe the vote on this legislation should wait until the Congressional Budget Office has a chance to score its impact.

Why do you not hear these constituencies? Why are their concerns ignored? Do you represent all AMERICANS or just the Republican subset? All three participants in the healthcare system (carriers, providers and patients) have a large stake in Congress' decision, yet the Senate (and the House) appear to disregard their opinions. To whom are you listening today and why?

I hope you hear the will of the people and vote against the bill sponsored by Senators Graham and Cassidy. Instead, I encourage you to take reasonable steps to fix Obamacare.

Sincerely,

William F. Morris


**WILLIAM F. MORRIS, CPA
ROZAR MORRIS, LLC
SATELLITE COURT – SUITE 165
2250 SATELLITE BOULEVARD
DULUTH, GA 30097
(770) 232-1616 OFFICE
(678) 725-6459 CELL
(770) 232-5056 FACSIMILE**


Note: You are hereby advised that any written tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) was not written or intended to be used (and cannot be used) by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding penalties under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code or promoting, marketing or recommending an arrangement relating to any Federal tax matter to any person or entity.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not repeal AHC for the Graham/Cassidy bill

My name is Martha Carver , I live in Dahlonga, GA. I am 67 yrs old. Most of my life I had my healthcare provided by my employers. In 2006 we retired to GA and I found a job at a Humane Society where I was lucky I received minimum wage but no healthcare. Because my husband also worked he had healthcare but I was good with having none as I was a relatively healthy fit person for the years I worked that job. When the ACA was available to me in 2014 I thought "well, thank God, I can have some healthcare now" so I applied. I received healthcare for one year until I turned 65 and went to Medicare.

During my time on "Obamacare" I found a Dr and did some checkups and tests that I had not been doing for a few years and now could afford to get them done. At this time they found that my kidneys were almost destroyed and I had to go to a kidney specialist to find out what happened and see if I could recover some of my kidney function. For the next few months my kidney specialist found that my kidney disease had been brought on by excessive use of Advil over many many years. So I had to give up my pain meds and also many other supplements that were affecting my kidneys.....

Over that period of time while I was on "Obamacare" my kidneys improved and today, I have relatively good kidney function. I would have NEVER found out about my kidney problem without having access to affordable health care..... I thank President Obama for saving my kidneys for sure.

Please do NOT repeal this life saving program. Instead, work with both parties to fix what needs fixing in the ACA.... Do NOT take away healthcare from millions.... Do NOT leave it to states to do the right thing..>> they WON'T.

Thank you, Martha Carver Dahlonga , GA.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Evan Guilford-Blake [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

Gentlepersons and members of the committee:

I am a registered Georgia voter. I urge the committee to reject the Cassidy-Graham bill. The statistics and other information about the harm its passage would do to the general public has been well documented, and the fact that most significant stakeholder and industry groups, including the insurance industry, oppose it ought to be sufficient grounds to deny its passage.

Very truly yours,

Evan Guilford-Blake

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brigitte Peck [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am dismayed by the Senate's reckless pursuit to cram anything through so they can say they repealed the ACA. Nothing I say as a constituent with a pre-existing condition who is concerned my state will allow insurance companies to charge me more is going to sway those if you determined to roll back healthcare for millions of Americans. If you were honest, you would admit that you don't think government should be in healthcare. You won't admit that though since you know most Americans want it. So instead, you create sham replacements designed to create funding for tax cuts. You can't say that this bill protects Americans with pre-existing conditions if the cost of their insurance gets jacked up. You can't say Americans have access to care if policies that actually cover what you need (like ambulance rides) cost more. You can't even say how many people will be negatively impacted because you won't wait for a CBO score. Fortunately, other professionals - medical groups, doctors' groups, insurance companies- aren't scared to say what you - our elected representatives refuse to -- This is a bad piece of legislation that will leave millions of Americans without the care they need and deserve. I don't know why you don't care about that. I don't know why you think it is serving the American people to cram this through with no hearings, no input from medical professionals, no debate, no markup. I don't know why you think you know better than the medical professionals. I don't know why you think it's ok to do your job this way. I do know that voting against the interest of the people they represent so that you can pass anything just to say you did is the surest sign that our government is broken and our leadership lacks integrity. I am disillusioned by the ease with which you lie. I am dismayed by your inability to put policy before party. I want you to do your job the way it was meant to be done. I want to stop worrying about a bunch of self-serving legislators creating havoc because they spent 7 years tearing something down without ever trying to build something in its place. You should be ashamed. Do not vote for this travesty. Fix what needs to be fixed. Work together. Stop being so nasty or get ready to be sent home.

One fed up American,
Brigitte Peck
3961 Arden Way NE
Atlanta, GA 30342

[REDACTED]
Doing Nothing is Not an Option
Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse my typos. I blame autocorrect!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JACK HASSARD [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote health bill down

The Cassidy-Graham bill is a big lie on the American people. The ACA has helped millions and these senators want to put Americans at risk.

If you are honest men and women you won't support it

I've heard that senators are being offered bribes to vote for it. Shame on them

Jack Hassard
Emeritus Professor
Georgia State University
Atlanta GA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Reif [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable care act vs Trumpcare

I urge the congress to do what us right and reject this latest attempt to repeal ACA and replace it with Graham/Cassidy.

I am scared. I am a 60 year old woman with auto-immune disease and multiple pre-existing conditions. My husband is 64 and has a heart condition. Before ACA we were rejected by health insurance or told it would not cover our pre-existing conditions. With ACA we had good coverage and while not inexpensive, it was affordable and covered all our needs.

My husband is only able to work two days a week, neither of us eligible for Medicare. I don't want to lose our life savings or our home if we get sick. We have worked hard all our lives and paid all our taxes.

Please reject this bill.

Linda Reif

630 Galway drive
Roswell, GA 30076
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Samantha Renfro [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My daughter's need for Medicaid is being threatened with the new HealthCare bill

Please take the time to check out my video regarding how important Medicaid is to our family.

My daughter Debbie was in a car wreck in 1980 where she sustained a severe traumatic brain injury. For many years, we had no help with her care and her life became a nightmare. Debbie and I have briefly outlined our struggle to keep her safe and how Medicaid came to the rescue.

<https://youtu.be/w0MOPHdWTYU>

Thank you for taking the time to hear our story

Samantha Renfro
3850 Brittan Glade Trail
Snellville, GA 30039
770-922-0730 (h) 404-788-6374 (c)
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M. White [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill

Hello,

- Please do not let the Graham-Cassidy Bill pass. It would just cause even more chaos in our chaotic healthcare "system." Even the insurance companies don't want it.
- There will not be time for senators to properly review the bill before the end of September.
- The Congressional Budget Office will likely not have had time to assess it before then.
- The bill has evidently been misrepresented in the press, with even Senator Cassidy promoting false ideas about the bill.
- There is another, bi-partisan bill getting ready to be presented that may be better.
- Please don't rush through legislation that will have serious, life and death consequences for millions of Americans!
- And please don't pretend that more people will have insurance as a result of this. Having "access" to insurance that people, for the most part, cannot afford, with companies that can refuse them because of pre-existing conditions, and raise premiums sky-high at will, is not true access to coverage.
- Please look at not only coverage, but the **supply side** of healthcare and why Americans pay more for healthcare than anywhere else in the world! Why are medications and procedures so astronomically high? Bring those costs under control and it will be easier to make healthcare affordable for more Americans.

Thank you,
Marci White
Athens, GA
USA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matt Johnston [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: TBI & ABI survivors plea

PLEASE DO NOT cut funding for the community of impaired brain survivors. I owned a commercial sign business with 9 employees in Atlanta for 21 years and therefore paid significant taxes and fees to the treasury department. As of my TBI on Aug. 2, 2011 I have been in need of the very limited income I receive from the government. Please do not cut it further.

Thank you,
Matt Johnston
former owner of ProSign, Inc. in Marietta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Watkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy/Graham bill

I oppose this bill! I think it would be a disaster for many Americans! It is mean spirited and would hurt the poor, the elderly, anyone with a pre existing condition, women and children!
I have notified my Georgia senators of my opposition.

Thank You,

Susan Watkins
300 Dodd Street, NW
Rome, GA 30165

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: laura verigan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH bill

My name is Laura Verigan, and I am a physician in Georgia. I provide emergency care for pediatric patients, many of whom rely on Medicaid for their insurance. My patients and their families will be adversely impacted if this legislation passes, I have no doubt. It is an incredibly rare event when so many medical societies, as well as the AARP, AHA, and others agree on a matter of policy; many, many medical societies are vociferously opposed to this legislation, as are a bipartisan group of state governors. This health care legislation is ill-conceived and bad for Americans.

I implore you to speak with health care policy experts and physicians in the trenches, and work in a bipartisan fashion to improve the current health care system in a way which works for all Americans. Improvements can and should be made in the Affordable Care Act; many of us have ideas on this front.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Laura Verigan, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Buehrer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed GCH bill

This bill is a travesty, and any elected official with a modicum of a moral conscience would not even consider voting for it. Let's hope it never sees the light of day.

Dr. David Buehrer
Kennesaw, GA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Doug Finner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy

Healthcare is a human right. Human rights should be guaranteed by the federal government. Turning healthcare over to the states is a recipe for inconsistent availability of this basic human right much as if the first amendment was implemented at state levels.

I am losing my COBRA coverage at the end of this year. I have at least 3 well managed pre-existing conditions that will likely cause any private insurance to be more expensive than necessary or appropriate.

I ask that we move away from stripping citizens of access to reasonably priced healthcare and move to Medicare for All. I'm happy to pay higher taxes to assure the health and welfare of my fellow citizens.

Thank you.

Doug Finner
75 Mueller Way
Cleveland, GA 30528

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sylvia Schaefer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Graham Cassidy health care legislation

To whom it may concern:

I am strongly opposed to all of the ongoing efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, particularly proposals such as Graham Cassidy which will leave millions without access to needed health care. The current legislation is opposed by all the major physicians' groups; it is appalling that you would try to push this through without hearings, analysis, or a CBO score.

If you want to improve health care in this country, it is time to move forward with a single payer system. A majority of Americans now support such a system. Stop it with your insane theatrics and do something to move this country forward. What you are currently proposing is--literally--sickening.

Sylvia Schaefer
Athens, GA 30605

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jamie Weisman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Dermatologist and cancer survivor

I sent this message to my senator. I never got the meeting, but I thought it might interest you. The same issue applies to the current health care bill, especially for someone who lives in Georgia.

Jamie Weisman

Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 09:50:07 AM
Subject: meeting with Sen Isakson

Hi Ms. Fisher,

Gus in Sen. Isakson's office gave me your contact info. I am a dermatologist in Sandy Springs, Georgia and also run a clinical trial center working closely with almost every major pharmaceutical company. I also have a genetic immunodeficiency and am a cancer survivor on chronic chemotherapy. The bill just passed by the House would destroy the lives of thousands of my patients. Even I, the daughter of a doctor, who have had every advantage, could lose access to healthcare if maximum lifetime caps return. My concern for my children is even greater. The House shockingly turned a deaf ear to every major medical organization and patient advocacy group. I have written a book about being a patient and becoming a doctor and have always walked both sides of the patient doctor divide. I would appreciate a chance to sit down with the Senator and share my perspective. If Congress restores lifetime caps without taking on pharma and providing for uninsured patients (the primary reason hospital costs are so high), there will be no way that patients with chronic diseases will survive. We have made great advances in cancer care. We have more survivors than ever, and in many cases have turned cancer into a chronic disease rather than a death sentence, but that care comes at a price, and the House bill would turn back that progress for all but the wealthiest.

Thanks for your help. I trust Sen. Isakson's wisdom and compassion and remain hopeful the Senate will show more sense than the House.

Best regards,

Jamie Weisman, M.D.

Medical Dermatology Specialists, PC

Advanced Medical Research, PC

5730 Glenridge Drive

Sutie T-100

Sandy Springs, GA 30328

P.S. This email was written while receiving IV rituximab in the Winship cancer center.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Ferebee [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 9-25-17 Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My name is Ann Ferebee, and my home address is [REDACTED]. I am writing to say that I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and the overall attempt to repeal Obamacare through reconciliation without the benefit of open hearings, debate, or thorough analysis by the CBO or other bipartisan organizations. In fact, the vast majority of stakeholders, including medical organizations, medical providers, and even insurance companies have come out in opposition of this bill, given its provisions that would deny affordable healthcare coverage to millions of Americans and cut federal funding for healthcare.

Personally, being fortunate enough to afford coverage for myself and my family, as well as lucky enough that we are relatively healthy at present, I will be honest to say that I would not be terribly affected by the changes this bill would bring (other than the fact that I am a woman and would likely have to pay more for maternity care if I choose to have another child, and more for routine preventative care, such as mammograms or ovarian cancer screenings, for example). But I am writing on behalf of friends and family that aren't as lucky as I am. I have friends with medically fragile children who depend on Medicaid to provide quality care and services for their children. I have friends that have had to set up Go Fund Me accounts to help pay for the costs of their child who was born at only 24 weeks gestation and who is facing numerous health issues and developmental delays. I am writing on behalf of the millions of other Americans for whom this is a very real issue of life and death. And I am begging that their healthcare not be ripped away by a handful of Republican Senators for no other reason than that they made political promises to repeal Obamacare (no matter the costs in money and even human lives?), or even worse, because they would lose donations from billionaires or super PACs.

While our political system has its flaws and breakdowns, I refuse to believe that our government can be so broken as to cynically out a party "win" over the health and welfare of our most vulnerable citizens. Please do not support this terrible bill, and please allow the Affordable Care Act to remain the law of the land. Those who would rip away funding and healthcare from the disabled and medically fragile children, simply so they can claim a political win or a promise fulfilled, will be held accountable both professionally and through whatever moral judgment they ascribe to. The world is watching. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Ann Ferebee

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marina Haile [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My healthcare story

It all began as a normal day - I was 33 weeks pregnant and everything was going according to plan. Late in the day, my back started to really hurt and I discovered that I was bleeding - just a little bit. I called my midwife and she suggested I go to the hospital just to be on the safe side. I walked into the hospital at 11pm. My son was born at 11:52 pm. He weighed 4 pounds even and was whisked off to the NICU before I really had a chance to count fingers and toes.

His lungs collapsed very soon after birth and the amazing NICU staff cared for him as only those with a true calling could. He spent 28 days in the NICU.

We got the first of many bills from the hospital shortly after he came home. Panic ensued!!!

To be clear, I had a near perfect pregnancy. I did not gain excessive weight. I ate healthy food and exercised throughout. I took my pre-natal vitamins and had regular checkups with my OB-GYN. I did not smoke or drink alcohol. I read all the "What to expect" books and heeded the advice contained therein. And yet, I still had a premie as do many women.

Without affordable insurance, we would have lost our house and all our possessions.

My son came into the world with pre-existing conditions though no fault of his own. He will continue to have lung issues for his entire life. Will he be able to afford decent healthcare when he ages out of ours?

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act. Sure, it may have its issues but they can be fixed. No bill is perfect. Please fix the ACA - don't repeal it and replace it with something that the American Medical Association, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, the March of Dimes, AARP, and many others say is a bad bill.

Please!!!

Marina Haile
Marietta GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan S [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

Did this bill go through bipartisan committee? Did only old white men say what went in it? Does it protect "the least of these"?

I hope you vote NO on the latest repeal effort. I hope if you vote YES, that you will be voted out of office. We don't need you.

Jan S.
Georgia

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Darren McMichael [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy proposal

Dear Sirs,

I am a constituent of Georgia who has the benefit of company-supplemented healthcare. The Graham Cassidy has not had sufficient public scrutiny and evaluation, nor are we sure of the cost to our country - either the public or private aspects.

There are significant concerns from healthcare providers. I fully support the coverage of pre-existing conditions, as well as contraception services, maternity care, mental health, and substance abuse. Turning those decisions & control over to individual states - some more religious than others - would be a detriment to mobility of our citizens. It could allow poorer states to have substandard care and that, too, would negatively impact this great country..

I do not think the ACA is the best deal for this country, but the Graham-Cassidy proposal is worse. Efforts should be extended to bolster the ACA, or slide to a single-payer system, rather than pursue dismantling the ACA simply to follow through with election promises built on half-truths.

Regards,
Darren McMichael

Woodstock, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I want this proposed legislation held until AFTER the CBO Scoring is completed. There is no need to rush through legislation that affects millions of citizens in such significant ways – from the price of healthcare insurance, to the ability to access healthcare, especially for the people who can least afford healthcare.

Graham-Cassidy is a hail-mary pass by Republicans.

Let's have honest, bipartisan discussion and negotiation – and make sure we include the WOMEN in Congress – before making ANY changes to the Affordable Care Act.

I've asked my senators (Isakson and Perdue) to vote no on this proposed legislation.

Kate Lee
1890 Withmere Way
Dunwoody GA 30338
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Walker [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I DO NOT support Graham - Cassidy!

There are millions of reasons why Republicans support this totally inept and careless attempt at healthcare reform and they're all either dollar bills from GOP corporate donors or empty threats made by our current President towards a Congress who's not delivering him "victories".

There are many reasons why I don't support the Graham Cassidy farce but let me focus on one for brevity's sake. Pre-existing conditions are not protected under this bill. We all have them to one degree or another. Here are my family's:

Arthritis, PTSD from Army deployments, Poly Cystic Ovary Syndrome, depression, high blood pressure, asthma

Because of these ailments we were born with and have acquired over the years, we will be penalized, charged much higher rates, and possibly denied coverage. This is WRONG and you all know it.

Do the hard right over the easy wrong and WORK HARD with experts on every facet of healthcare and give us a program that works and represents what America can do - which is provide cutting edge, innovative solutions for a healthier, more productive, less costly population.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Columbus GA 31907
706-536-8878

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Ferrard [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill = recession

I have three pre-existing conditions, hypothyroidism, asthma, and severe allergies that require a minimum of \$200/month in prescriptions. I also have to carry an Epi-pen with me everywhere I go. I do, however, recognize that I am lucky compared to many of my friends. If you pass the Graham-Cassidy bill, my prescription bills will go up. My allergy shot price will go up. And my friends healthcare bills will skyrocket. Your bill is not only an insult to the people who elected you, it is negligent, cruel and inhumane to all of us.

Despite this, the Senate seems poised to pass this bill. Have you thought about this effect yet? If the majority of the US population is facing massive hits to their budget, you might well cause a recession. We won't have extra money to buy cars, go out to dinner, or purchase new items for our family. The wheels will stop turning for our economy. Stop this madness and work to fix the ACA. Don't degrade or bring down this nation any more than the worst President in our history already has. Do your jobs for all your constituents.

Sincerely,
Andrea Ferrard
Resident of Roswell, Georgia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Killingsworth [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposed legislation

Honorable Chair and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing today to request that you vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill, specifically in consideration of the devastating impact that this legislation will have on injured workers in Georgia and throughout the country.

I am a Georgia resident and now retired Trial Division Director and Chief Administrative Law Judge at the Georgia State Board of Workers' Compensation. I have served in a judicial and professional capacity in this field for 34 years. I am appalled at the callous disregard for injured workers that this bill reflects.

Graham-Cassidy eliminates the requirement that insurance carriers cover pre-existing conditions, or otherwise make such coverage affordable. If this bill passes, individuals who have suffered work injuries and are unable to work, who no longer have access to employer-provided health insurance, and who are living on the limited income benefits available to them under their state's Workers' Compensation Act, will not only continue to suffer the significant financial distress that the loss of a job entails. They will also lose coverage for their work related medical condition when their workers' compensation statutory benefits end, because that medical condition is a preexisting condition that health insurers will not pick up and cover.

This bill will clearly have a negative and substantial impact on our labor force, particularly on persons who were working and living the American dream until they were injured. Instead, they may find themselves disabled to work and their families unable to lift themselves out of debt due to a lack of affordable medical care, all through no fault of their own.

I do not believe that this bill is the repeal-and-replace legislation that your constituents expected and are hoping for, nor will it benefit them in any tangible way. I am requesting that you vote against Graham-Cassidy on behalf of our workforce, and that Congress instead engage in a more transparent, reasoned, and bi-partison, path to reform.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patricia M. Killingsworth

Hon. Patricia M. Killingsworth

1364 Rainier Falls Drive NE
Atlanta, GA. 30329

[REDACTED]
Direct: 404-323-3720

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacey Dougherty [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Repeal

Seven years ago, my husband was quasi-employed after losing his job in an industry he had spent over 30 years in. After a couple of jobs that didn't work out, he went for almost a year without health insurance because he was turned down by every insurance company for a pre-existing condition. No doctor visits and reduced medications because he didn't want us to lose the house, so kept up the mortgage. We couldn't afford both.

Upon starting a job with great benefits at half the salary he was paid just 2 years before, he suffered a fatal heart attack. I became a widow before I turned 50 and our 15 yr-old daughter lost her beloved father.

I have lived the consequences of not having healthcare and I do not wish it on anyone, except the legislators in Congress who want to snatch it from vulnerable Americans in order to fulfill a campaign promise and to secure funding from rich oligarchs who will threaten to primary any in their party who do not tow their line.

You should all be ashamed of yourselves for focusing on the repeal of the ACA rather than working to fix it. If there are any of you who care the slightest for your constituents who will be adversely affected by a repeal - particularly those who will not survive it - then I implore you to take a stand and protect your fellow Americans from fates like my husband's and my family's. Is there anyone on the committee with a soul? Or have you all bargained it away to the devils Koch, Adrlson, Mercer, et al?

And unless you think otherwise, I went back to college, got my degree, am working and am taking care of my family. My child is set to graduate, on schedule and will be a productive member of society. We both have a right to healthcare and should I lose my job, I could very well lose it if you pass this repeal. Millions like me will, as soon as your legislation passes. Please don't. But if you do, prepare for the storm that's coming.

STACEY A. DOUGHERTY
Smryna, GA

--
Stacey Dougherty

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Connor [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment for the RECORD of SFC committee

Dear Committee members,

My husband and I own two small businesses and have been self-employed for over 25 years. I am a cancer survivor and my husband is diabetic. Getting and keeping health insurance has been one of the most challenging priorities in our businesses.

Since the ACA we have finally been safely insured, and while premiums have increased, we coverage against a terrible health incident and we can count on that.

Graham/Cassidy is not the answer. Creating 50 different state insurance systems doesn't make sense. GA has not the wherewithal or the inclination to set up its own healthcare system. They could get behind free federal money 8 years ago. Doctors, Hospitals, Insurers and Patient groups are begging you not to pass this bill. Listen to them...

INSTEAD it is time to improve the ACA and NOT repeal it. There are at least 20+ changes that policy experts have suggested could change the ACA for the better, but I'd like to concentrate on four:

1) Expand Medicaid nationwide: 7 hospitals have closed in GA and two in Atlanta are in financial trouble. 56% of babies born at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta are on Medicaid. States that expanded are already 8 + years ahead of us in healthier outcomes. Maternal healthcare is disappearing in rural America. One OBGYN doctor serves 8 GA counties and 2,714 Sq. miles in Thomaston, GA. Of our 159 counties, 79 do not have an obstetric provider. Our poor and rural counties are in a death spiral.

2) Restore the Risk Corridors: Why would an insurance company want to come into GA with the population in such poor health? They won't. They are money making machines, the 9 CEOs from the Health insurance industry made a whopping \$283 million annually, some of which ends up in your pockets. They are behold to their shareholders, not the poor and unhealthy in GA. Insurance companies need incentive to offer policies in GA and the risk corridors will do that. This policy helps insurers do the ground work and negotiate with our providers and hospitals. Senator Rubio was wrong, doing away with the risk corridors destroyed true competition in our ACA insurance marketplace.

3) Commit to the CSRs: With money on table the insurance companies don't like to "guess" what their commitment will be from you. Commit to what you promised them and stabilize the marketplace. Every threat you make to them just puts your constituents at risk.

4) Support our Doctors, Nurses, pharmacists: They need to be in charge of our healthcare not paper pushing actuaries in an office building. Our medical providers should be at the top of the list. Raise the compensation for Medicaid and Medicare coverage so they will take more patients covered this way. Pay them better for these patients. It's shameful that we've allowed insurance companies and big pharma to highjack our medical industry.

Each of you have the privilege and luxury of tax payer funded healthcare coverage. Why on earth would you not want the same for all of your constituents? It's a matter of justice; justice for each of us to be healthy to prosper and grow this great country. Medicare for All is the future and long-term goal of most of the Americans I know. Our great leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said in his "I Have a Dream" speech delivered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, "We refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity in this nation. So, we've come to cash the check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice."

Never worrying that you will lose your house, your job, or your life because you don't have healthcare coverage is the justice we seek, justice for the rich and the poor, justice for the healthy and the sick. That's it, you do this for us and we will truly be the greatest country on earth.

Thank you,

Melissa Connor
Plus One Media, Inc.
2152 Tanglewood Road
Decatur, GA 30033
404-735-4750

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trudy Fisher [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

I want a statement entered into the record for the SFC hearing:

The proposal being considered does not make the United States a healthier community. It does not increase access or address the issue of affordability. The Graham-Cassidy bill leave vulnerable Americans without the lifeline of healthcare. It has not been assessed by the OBM, or opened for public hearings.

I urge the rejection of the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Thank you.

Trudy Fisher
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Manda de Zayas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Statement for the Congressional Record

For consideration during the Graham-Cassidy bill debate:

Before the ACA was enacted, my mother died from complications of Crohn's disease at 54. My mother, who got a college education, worked at a good office job, raised me almost entirely on her own and volunteered at school and church programs, had gotten too sick to work and support her family. By the time she died we were completely broke.

Had she been rich, she'd be alive today. She would have had access to better care and more aggressive treatments. I don't know if you know how that feels - to lose the most important person in your life because you didn't have enough money to save them. Anyone who tries to argue that your income level doesn't affect your access to medical care need only speak to me or one of the millions of family members who have cared for and loved someone with a chronic illness.

After my mother died, I, once a middle-class kid, was left still in college with only a part time job, no home, no mom, no best friend. Through scholarships, hard work, and the generosity of family and friends, I worked my way back up. I graduated, I got a job in my field, I got married. I now enjoy a comfortable life with my husband. I work hard, I pay taxes, I vote in every election, I donate to charity, I volunteer, I am kind to others. I "pulled myself up by my bootstraps", as the popular republican saying goes. I have done everything my country asked of me. I am the American dream.

Now I have two inherited, chronic conditions. They are expensive and time-consuming to treat, but I am lucky enough to have a decent insurance plan and some money to put toward my treatment. Millions are not so lucky. I'm even more fortunate that, unlike my mother, I have ACA protections such as essential health benefits and protections for my pre-existing conditions. My husband also benefits from this, as he has a pre-existing condition as well.

But now I stand on the precipice of suffering the same fate as my mother. I am terrified. I can do nothing except beg my representatives not to bend to the will of billionaire donors; to protect me and the 2 million+ of my fellow Georgians who will lose coverage. I call my congresspersons' offices every day and get only voicemail.

Proponents of Graham-Cassidy say it protects pre-existing condition protections. With respect, these people are either lying or don't know the substance of the bill is. Individual states would be empowered to eliminate ACA protections, allowing insurers to charge whatever they want and deny coverage for essential benefits. I know from painful experience that access to care means nothing if you cannot afford it.

I beg you to vote no on Graham Cassidy. Vote no on ACA repeal. Make a good-faith, bipartisan effort in regular order to fix the problems with the Affordable Care Act - whether that means resuming Lamar Alexander and Patty Murray's efforts to stabilize and improve ACA or enacting a new effort. I would never vote for anyone who could be so cruel as to literally kill people and destroy lives simply for political gain. I'm sure millions more Americans couldn't either. My life is in your hands. The lives of millions are in your hands. This is the single most important vote of your career. Have the courage to do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Amanda K. de Zayas
Atlanta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tareq F [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Plea for Keeping the ACA

Dear Senators and Staff,

I ask and plea that you vote NO on the Graham Cassidy bill. Repealing the Affordable Care will truly put my family's survival on the line.

My wife and my brother both suffer from mental illness. The cost of their care is already high. If they can't get their medicine and check ups, they will not be able function or hold a job. It's a downward spiral from there.

I know that the ACA has problems. We need to fix it and better fund it rather than repealing it and taking a step backwards. Things are tough today and I have no faith that they will get better in the years to come. Losing our healthcare in the future will be devastating.

Thank you for your consideration.

~Tareq Fayyad
Atlanta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Mount [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Terrible bill

The Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act is a terrible bill. Removing the pre-existing conditions mandate, damaging people with disabilities and those who need long term care, demanding that the states create 50 different processes to get insurance – it's just wrong, in so many ways.

As a person who must pay for her own insurance, I urge you to defeat this bill in committee.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Seales [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for SFC Graham-Cassidy Hearing

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you today as a Georgia resident, a woman living with mental illness, the sister of an ankylosing spondylitis patient, and a future registered nurse.

To say that repealing the affordable care act would upend my life would be an understatement. The Essential Health Benefit protection that passed as part of the ACA has enabled me to access the affordable mental health treatment I need in order to work and support my family. As a result of steady treatment, I was able to return to school and am working toward becoming a registered nurse in the state of Georgia. Ending the essential health benefit protection would make me unable to afford my treatment, and I worry that I would not be able to attend school.

Second, I'd like to tell you about my younger brother. My brother was diagnosed with ankylosing spondylitis, an autoimmune connective tissue disorder that has systemic effects on the body, when he was just 4 years old. In addition to frequent joint pain and movement difficulties, he also experiences regular stomach, eye, and infection issues.

My mother is an educator, so fortunately we were able to cover his care for the majority of his childhood. However, when he turned 18, he was kicked off her care and did not have the option to stay on her insurance at the time. With no option through school or his job, he had to make the choice to purchase very expensive insurance with very little coverage (due to his pre-existing condition).

Fortunately, the ACA went into effect 2 months after his birthday. He was able to get back onto my mother's insurance. Shortly after, he contracted an infection that left him in the hospital for several days. Thanks to the ACA, my brother was able to get the care he needed and avoid being over \$10,000 in medical debt at age 18.

My brother just turned 26 in August. He is now off my mother's insurance again and does not have insurance options at his job. I am concerned that the Graham Cassidy bill would leave him with nothing but expensive options with very little coverage. There is no guarantee of essential health benefit coverage or protections for his pre-existing conditions. I worry that if this bill passes, since he works a low-wage job, he likely wouldn't be able to afford coverage. He'd be in pain on a regular basis. I know that he takes many pills each day to manage his condition and I worry what would happen if he couldn't afford this medication.

He's even looking at moving to a state with universal health care coverage if he can - moving thousands of miles away from family and friends just to have health care. No one should have to make this decision just to live happy, healthy lives.

Please don't make affordable health care out of my and my brother's reach. People's lives, their well-being, their livelihoods are on the line.

Thank you for your time.

Best,
Jessica Seales
Atlanta, Georgia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sitara Nayak [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Caps No Cuts to Medicaid

My name is Sitara Nayak and I live in Marietta, GA

My son Ishan Nayak is 16 yrs old, he is extremely social and loves to go to school and be among his peers. Ishan is not your typical 16 yr old he has complex medical needs, to name a few of his diagnoses Crohns Disease, Cerebral Palsy, two rare genetic syndromes Cri Du Chat & Trisomy 9, etc, due to these medical issues my son uses a wheel chair and needs full one-on-one support for his daily living needs. He needs Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy and because of Medicaid he is able to get these services. Because of Medicaid waiver, he is able to have in home support. As his parent it is extremely difficult to manage his daily living needs without support. Having Medicaid for my son has been life changing for us as a family: It has enabled me to go back to work full time as we have caregivers and certified Nursing assistants who are paid through Medicaid to help with my son's daily living needs (such as eating, bathing etc), it has prevented me from going on disability myself (the constant lifting of my son has caused permanent damage to my back), it has prevented our family from going bankrupt, as my son has had several hospital stays due to his medical complications. If there was a life time cap, my son would've hit it in the first few years of his life and in 2003 he was denied coverage by 8 insurance companies due to pre existing conditions. We moved states and he was eligible to get the Deeming Medicaid Waiver in GA which is when he was able to get healthcare coverage again.

This Graham-Cassidy bill would significantly affect health care services for my son. The Medicaid Cap would mean all non essential Medicaid items would be cut and the home health services he is getting right now falls under the non-essential category. But for our family it is critical, without home health services my son would have to be institutionalized and cost of institutional care far exceeds the cost of in home care. Also due to the fact that the bill removes the mandatory requirement of coverage of pre-existing conditions my son could go without insurance once again because of his medical conditions, this would render him with no health insurance at all and in turn would cause our family to face bankruptcy and my son would eventually end up at an institution because we will not be able to care for him.

I strongly urge congress to reject this bill as it would have dire consequences on my son, and our family as a whole.

Sincerely,
Sitara Nayak
(Ishan's Mom)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emma Meyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

My father, a small business owner who has worked hard all his life, only recently was able to get necessary surgeries to his hip and ankle to stop the agonizing, sustained pain he was experiencing. He is self-employed and has had to pay exorbitant fees his whole life to provide himself and his family with (inadequate) healthcare. When I was growing up, he paid hundreds of dollars a month for a plan with a \$10,000 deductible.

I am a graduate student pursuing a PhD. I was on stipend through my university until recently and had coverage through the student health plan. Once my health insurance stopped as my job changed, I sought out coverage through the ACA. My husband and I struggle to pay our monthly bills for health insurance, but we know we would not be able to afford health insurance at all if it weren't for the Affordable Care Act.

For these reasons and many others, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

I will be following this vote closely and voting against any of my elected representatives who try to undermine or repeal the ACA.

Sincerely,

Emma Meyer

Decatur, Georgia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kalyne Torok [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:47 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. Kalyne Torok
3145 Blue Heron Pass
Powder springs, GA 30127
9202108555

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Burroughs [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: STOP PLAYING WITH MY LIFE. I AM NOT YOUR WHIPPING BOY!

Dear Senators:

I hate ObamaCare. I have paid more for less every year since it started. I am struggling to put my child through college and I can't afford to have specific basic dental and surgical procedures done because the \$709 a month I pay as a relatively healthy 50 year old for myself and my daughter doesn't cover ANYTHING until I have paid in \$6000, or \$12,000 as a family. I have over \$2000 in medical bills on top of my premiums, and for the 3rd year in a row, I will be losing this coverage at the end of the year.

What I hate worse than all of this is that all of this you SENATORS who have EXCELLENT health benefits do NOT even begin to grasp the stress, frustration, hardship and anger you are causing to millions of people by your blind, childish, and hateful rhetoric and political machinations. Instead, you are finding NEW WAYS to see that we cannot support ourselves or our families because you are too juvenile to work together. YES, that's what the American people NEED-- you to work together in a bipartisan way. We are your boss, not your whipping boys!

There is no rational argument that can be made as to why it is humane to create a financial windfall for roughly 3 million people (who have excellent access to healthcare) while over 320 million people are one major illness away from being on welfare rolls, or worse, dying from it! You may have duped some people into believing they are part of your elitist group, but as a person who WORKS for a living, I know you do not think of me as deserving.

You work for us and I will be doing everything in my power to see that any of my senators and representatives who are more interested in political grandstanding than they are in my welfare don't get to spend another term in their offices.

Have a healthy day!

Laura Burroughs
Newnan, GA 30263

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patsy Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill
Attachments: NAMD STATEMENT ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY.pdf

Please let Senator Alexander and others work together to fix the problems with ACA. This new bill will greatly compromise the most vulnerable of our citizens here in Georgia.

Medicaid in Georgia

- 2 million Georgians rely on Medicaid, and 1.3 million (67%) of those are children.
- Medicaid is the biggest source of federal funding coming into our state, at more than \$7 billion dollars. Federal Medicaid funds make up almost 20% of Georgia's budget, making any loss of funding a guaranteed crisis for our state and its residents....
- Medicaid gives people with disabilities the opportunity to live, work, and worship in their communities, rather than in institutions.
- Medicaid allows older Georgians to age in place rather than moving to expensive nursing home care.
- Georgia already has a very slim Medicaid program; our per capita spending is the 2nd lowest in the country.

Proposed changes to Medicaid

- The Senate continues to discuss proposals that would cut and cap our state's federal Medicaid funding, blow a hole in our state budget and leave us to foot the bill.
- The Graham-Cassidy bill proposes to shift the Medicaid program from a federal-state partnership to a capped program with far less funding. The additional "flexibility" offered to states through these block grants would be useless with less funding available.
- Capping Medicaid funding through a 'per capita cap' creates a dial that Congress and the administration could use to ratchet down any time they want additional savings from Medicaid to fund other priorities.
- Cuts to Medicaid funding would force Georgia to raise taxes, lower payments to doctors and take away health coverage from children, older adults and people with disabilities.
- Cuts to our Medicaid funding would put even greater pressure on our state budget and make it difficult to fund other important priorities such as education, transportation and efforts to address the opioid epidemic.
- There is no way to cut Medicaid without harming people, including kids with special needs like autism, older adults who rely on nursing care and people with disabilities who need support services to live independently.

Thank You,
Patsy Smith

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fistherapy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

[REDACTED]
Subject: Affordable care act vs Trumpcare / Graham-Cassidy

As a Physical Therapist for 40 years

I urge the congress to do what us right and reject this latest attempt to repeal ACA and replace it with Graham/Cassidy.

I am scared. I am a 64 year old therapist with pre-existing condition of heart disease.

Before ACA we were rejected by health insurance or told it would not cover our pre-existing conditions. With ACA we had good coverage and while not inexpensive, it was affordable and covered all our needs.

I don't want to lose our life savings or our home if we get sick. We have worked hard all our lives and paid all our taxes.

Please reject this bill.

630 Galway drive
[REDACTED], GA 30076

Bill Reif, MSPT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Dear Sirs/ Madames,

I urge you to reject the Graham Cassidy bill. It will be a disaster for many Americans. As an American citizen living abroad (and voting in Georgia), I can attest to the fact that it is possible to achieve health care that works for all and is affordable for all. Show your commitment to the American people and let the bipartisan efforts to revise the ACA continue. The Graham Cassidy bill is the worst one yet.

Senior citizens (my parents and inlaws), people with pre-existing conditions (my niece and nephew, my brother in law, my brother), people with disabilities (all of my former students from when I was a special educator in CT and MA) and the rest of the country are counting on you to choose the American People over partisanship.

The time is now. The United States is so much better than this bill. Prove it to the world that you believe the American people deserve better.

Emily Agraz,
mother of two
daughter
wife
sister
educator
US Citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Anona Stoops [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Graham Cassidy

I am the mother of a 17 year old daughter, Martha, who has Down syndrome living in Decatur, GA. Medicaid has enabled my daughter to access the vital health and education services that she needs to thrive. As she ages it will be Medicaid that will enable her to access employment and live and engage as a citizen in her community. Martha is already on a waitlist to access community based services in our state. Should this legislation pass Medicaid funding will be converted to block grants and per capita caps. The end result will be dramatic cuts in such funding. This will leave Martha and many other vulnerable individuals including the elderly and low-income Americans unable to have critical services that insure their dignity and social and physical well-being. Martha also has a number of preexisting conditions. I am concerned that her access to affordable treatment for these conditions is at risk if this legislation passes.

Please oppose Graham Cassidy and seek a bipartisan, deliberative, and ordered process to stabilize the markets and reform Medicaid.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Urgent: Against Graham Cassidy Proposed Legislation

Everyone who understands health care understands that this is a bad bill. I am concerned about the outcome for millions of fellow Americans. Please register my email as a plea to kill the bill and go back to the bipartisan efforts to improve what we have under the Affordable Care Act.

Expecting all 50 states to recreate the wheel makes zero sense. Republicans appear to want a political win to satisfy donors instead of representing the needs of their many constituents. Wealthy Americans do not need another tax break.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham -Cassidy

No CBO score but all indicators point to millions of Americans losing health coverage. A carve out for Alaska? Is that not the same thing as an ear-mark? No protection for pre-existing conditions. Reordering large segment of economy in what seems to be slap - dash manner. All major health care groups opposed to the bill. Block grants to States--sure fire path to mischief to be polite. I could go on and on but you get the picture. Terrible legislation.

Go back to regular order, hold hearings to get stakeholders input. Try something novel--bipartisan approach
Carole Johnston
30 Clarendon Av
Avondale Estates GA 30002

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsay Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In Support of the Affordable Care Act

Dear Senators,

The Affordable Care Act as passed under the previous administration is not perfect, particularly as it was implemented in the state of Georgia, where I live, without the Medicaid expansion that would have covered people who now fall within a coverage gap. However, I believe that, because of the changes that have been made, we cannot just go back to a time before most middle-class Americans were aware of the real cost of their healthcare. I am lucky enough to be able to purchase health insurance through my employer, but I am very aware of the cost of both my premiums and the care I and my family receive.

Please end the effort to score political points and move towards a thoughtful approach to legislation that would continue to improve our healthcare system. Simply giving money to the states will not make the problem go away. Please consider the welfare of ordinary American citizens when deciding on the path we will take as a nation.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Smith

Decatur, GA 30032

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Warner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

My nephew and his girl friend have preexisting conditions He was born with a heart defect and she had cancer.

There are millions like them in this country. Every single person knows someone with a preexisting condition.

Unless you are 100% sure this bill will not harm them and unless the CBO confirms that please don't allow this bill out of committee.

Ellen Warner
Cumming, GA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Maddock [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Catastrophe

Dear Senators,

Every single state Medicaid director, every major Healthcare association, the health insurance industry, and many other experts in the healthcare field have stated their firm opposition to the Graham/Cassidy bill. As a resident of Georgia, where nearly 1.2 million individuals will lose coverage under the bill, I share this opposition.

The proposition that 50 individual states will be able to develop high-functioning individual healthcare systems within two years and with drastically less federal money is simply untrue. The promise that pre-existing conditions will not be excluded for affordable insurance after federal waivers are applied is not believable. Disturbingly, no senator that I have heard has been able to state truthfully any benefits to individuals that this bill would provide.

This process does not meet any democratic standard for major legislation. A groundswell of citizens has reemerged to voice opposition to a terrible bill, developed in secret, that is being rushed through the Senate with NO PUBLIC HEARINGS and NO CBO SCORE. I urge you to listen to these citizens and all who believe that America, like all other developed nations, has an obligation to structure its economy so that each citizen has high-quality affordable healthcare.

I urge you to vote down this terrible bill and work under regular order in a bipartisan way to improve the existing ACA.

Thank you for your consideration.

[REDACTED]
4950 Ivy Ridge DR SE Unit 204
Atlanta, GA 30339

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Save Medicaid

My name is **Camille Yahm**, and I am a resident of **Carrollton, GA** where the University of West Georgia is located.

Forty-six years ago my little family returned to **Decatur, GA** to be near my parents after our experience as **educational missionaries** living on the **Island of Borneo** under the auspices of the **United Methodist Church** ended. Our last daughter was brain-injured at birth, and has the mental age of a 4-5 yr. old. She is one of the dearest individuals one could ever want to meet. For many years she has been the beneficiary of Medicaid for her medical care and medications, including her seizure control meds and those for respiratory infections due to a fragile immune system.

Because her father is 84 yrs. old, and I am 78, we realize that our daughter will survive us. We have attempted to make financial provisions for her upon our deaths. **BUT** if Medicaid funding is deleted and the **Affordable Care Act** be repealed, our financial resources for her future lodging, food, caregivers, and medical care will be insufficient and will be depleted quickly.

Our daughter represents the thousands in GA and millions across the US who are mentally and physically disabled and similar to her in so many ways or are poor and elderly who are served in nursing homes with Medicaid funding. Because these populations have no voice and in many instances no vote, we family members and friends who love and support them must speak on their behalf. We simply hope that those of you in the Senate will be listening to us and our personal stories. Many of us are on limited incomes and have Medicare as our primary insurance carrier. So we will not be profiting from the tax cuts that appear to be promised to the millionaires and billionaires among us when those dollars could/should be going into the funding for Medicaid to assist "**the least of these**". Please **do not** abandon us at this critical time in our lives, but please cast your vote **against** the latest healthcare bill being brought before you next week. I earnestly ask that you seek ways and means to work in bi-partisan efforts to maintain the best of the **ACA** and work on effectively righting those negative elements to make healthcare truly affordable and accessible by **ALL** the citizens of our amazing nation.

Gratefully,
Camille Yahm, mother and co-guardian of Wendi Funk

"The way to love anything is to realize that it might be lost."
G. K. Chesterton

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Snow [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: re: Graham-cassidy bill

Please, for the good of our country, DO NOT PASS THIS BILL! It is not a true healthcare bill but rather an attempt by the Republican party to placate their corporate backers. This travesty of a bill, will harm literally millions of Americans who **would not have an affordable alternative to healthcare**, especially those of us that have pre-existing conditions. Please understand, we are not all millionaires!

Sincerely,

Renee Snow, President

MICROCENTERS

6505 Commerce Pkwy, Suite A
Woodstock GA 30189
770-874-5706
[REDACTED]



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theodore Blumoff [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject the latest effort at repeal and replace

I have taught ethics for many years in both law and medical school settings. Among the points I hope to instill in my students is care for those less well off than we, to respect the law, and to think about how we incentivize that respect. The so-called "Graham Cassidy" bill is immoral and produces disincentives to good governing. To the second point first. The plan is to take hundreds of billions from Medicaid across the board. Inasmuch as Medicaid provides health care to the least well off among us, it suffers from moral decay to start with. But the disincentives arise because it takes money from those states which, following the ACA, have cared for the weakest among us, and gives it to those states who don't. In other words, it rewards those states whose leaders were guilty of gross negligence with respect to the well being of the poorest among their constituents. This is an act of moral degeneracy, especially when these cutbacks and reallocations are designed to enrich the most well off among us. This is shameful. It finds no comfort in 1 Isa. 57: 14-58, or Matt. 5-7, which is to say: This proposed bill finds no home in the Judeo-Christian tradition.

Professor Ted Blumoff, Ph.D., J.D.
Mercer University School of Law
1021 Georgia Ave
Macon, GA 31207
478-301-2634 (Office)
478-301-2259 (Fax)
678-296-1632 (Cell)

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Dobbin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Affordable healthcare is the cornerstone of any developed, modern country. In the past, I have often gone without needed medical care due to its prohibitive cost. My family members have had to struggle with medical bills while battling terminal cancer, the same cancer that Senator McCain is battling, in fact. Currently, millions of Americans rely on the ACA. It does have its flaws, but efforts to replace it should be bi-partisan and methodical. Doing otherwise would be irresponsible and represent a step backwards for our nation. Therefore, I strongly urge that the Graham-Cassidy bill not be passed.

Sincerely,

Heather Dobbin
Lawrenceville, Ga

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Ann Lawrence [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Committee Members:

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Laurie Ann Lawrence

~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Laurie Ann Lawrence
340 North Grove Ct.
McDonough, GA 30252-3935

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Justin Hargesheimer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Support for the Affordable Care Act

To whom it may concern

I feel that the Graham-Cassidy bill would be extremely unfair to the millions of lower income Americans that would lose their health care coverage due to realities of the market. By not covering Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities or taking affordability into account this legislation would bring the number of people without health insurance up. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Justin Hargesheimer

Atlanta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SUE ROWLAND [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT Support the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Senator Isakson,

Please do NOT support the Graham-Cassidy Bill ..Please .Do Not Cut Medicaid....

My 21 yr old son, Jonathan, has multiple disabilities, was born with multi-chamber hydrocephalus, Visual Impairments, Seizures, Cerebral Palsy, is non-verbal and wheelchair dependent. He's had 32 neurosurgeries for shunt problems. . He was on Katie Beckett Medicaid until age 18. Now he is on regular Medicaid. Our family insurance through GEHA is still the primary insurance for him and Medicaid is secondary. We are very thankful for all this coverage!!! We do not know what we would have done or would do without GEHA and Medicaid to cover his many surgeries, specialists, CT scans, MRIs, lab work, medical/mobility equipment, medications, and hospitalizations. My husband borrowed against his retirement 3 times to help pay for Jonathan's medical care and expenses...even after insurance had covered its part. I work with the SWGA health district in Albany with the Babies Can't Wait Program, the Children's Medical Services Program, and with Parent to Parent of Georgia as an information specialist for kids with special healthcare needs and disabilities.

I don't have to tell you how poor so many of our Georgia families are. Please vote NO for the Graham-Cassidy bill and protect Medicaid coverage for our most vulnerable population.

Respectfully,
Sue Rowland
229-894-0133
134 Silver Leaf Drive
Albany, GA. 31721
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Fly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My state, Georgia, chose not to take the medicaid expansion. As a result we've had 6 rural hospitals close. One of those was near my elderly parents. Having to drive an hour to get to a hospital can mean life or death if you are having a heart attack or any other critical issue.

In addition, when my sister had to use the emergency services at a hospital 2 counties over, they didn't have the resources to do her blood work. It took 3 days for them to send the blood work out and get it back.

The services available to all of us depend on enough of us having adequate healthcare coverage.

In addition to healthcare issues with hospitals closing is the issue of lost jobs in these rural areas that desperately need jobs. If we don't have enough people with adequate health care coverage, health care workers will lose their jobs.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Kirlin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare!!!

Dear Senators

After working 18 years as a nurse and 6 years as an Activity Director at High-rises for older adults, I developed Crohn's disease. This is an expensive and, without proper medication, debilitating disease. I started working at age 16 and continue to do so as much as I can on a part time basis. Because I'm immune compromised I can no longer work in hospitals and my current job does not pay much. Obamacare has allowed me to remain active in my church and community. I really do not know what the State of Georgia would do with blocks of money for healthcare. Many times money does not go to the purpose for which it was allocated. My fear is that with a pre-existing condition, I will no longer be able to afford insurance and will lose my home as well as my always tenuous "health".

Please do not pass the current bill now before the Congress. As a nation, we can do better than this.

Sincerely,
Renee Kirlin
960 Schoel Dr
Decatur Ga. 30033

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: June Lawson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comments

I have two family members who benefit from the current Medicaid program. I am asking you to please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy Bill that will threaten access to community living, employment opportunities and education supports. My family members work and live independently in an assistant living facility. This bill would be devastating to them. I appreciate your sincere consideration.

June Lawson
819 River Street
[REDACTED]
229.242.1170 phone
229.245.3670 fax



Notice: This email contains confidential or proprietary information which may be legally privileged. It is intended only for the named recipient (s). If an addressing or transmission error has misdirected the email, please notify the author by replying to this message. If you are not the named recipient, you are not authorized to use, disclose, distribute, copy, print or rely on this email, and should immediately delete it from your computer system.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aggie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

STOP this disaster - this is not a Healthcare Bill for Americans. It is a death sentence.

A. Desmond
Canton, GA 30114

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth English [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: 'Katy Neas'; 'Jacobson, Eric'
Subject: comments from Southern Georgia

Our organization has supported people with disabilities for 60 years. I have personally served in the disability field for 41 years. During our 2017 fiscal year, our organization touched the lives of over 6700 children and adults with disabilities residing in 60 of Georgia's (mainly rural) counties. The Medicaid program is vital to their very lives. Their ability to live in small group residences with the appropriate nursing care depends on the Medicaid waiver program...an optional service that could be endangered if federal funding diminishes. Georgia also has a waiting list for disability services that tops the 8000 mark. Will these individuals continue to wait for the services that they need to be productive, contributing citizens? Medical science saves premature babies, individuals who are injured or become seriously ill. Will our nation leave them to a quality of life that has no quality? The most vulnerable of our citizens NEED Medicaid coverage. Please do NOT pass the Graham-Cassidy bill on Monday. Lives depend on your decision.

Beth English

Executive Director

P 229.439.7061 • F 229.435.6278

[REDACTED]
easterseals.com/southerngeorgia



HIPAA Privacy Rule requires covered entities to safeguard certain Protected Health Information (PHI) related to a person's healthcare. Information being sent to you may include PHI, after appropriate consent, acknowledgment or authorization from the patient or under circumstances that do not require patient authorization. You, the recipient, are obligated to maintain PHI in a safe and secure manner. You may not re-disclose this patient information without additional patient consent or as required by law. Unauthorized re-disclosure or failure to safeguard PHI could subject us, or you, to penalties described in federal (HIPAA) and state law. If you, the reader of this message, are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and destroy the related message. Thanks for your help.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: simone de vries [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: repeal of the ACA

To whom it may concern,

Do you understand you are playing with peoples lives?
Millions may loose their healthcare, the number that keeps coming up is 32 million.
Many of them will be handicapped and people with pre existing conditions.

My daughter, she is a beautiful 5 year old and both SHE AND I have pre existing conditions.
She was born with Atrium Septum defects in her heart and although she has since grown over that, it does mean we will most likely have to pay a much higher premium for her insurance.
Especially when there are going to be lifetime caps, you set her up for failure.
You can claim insurance is available to her but it is not affordable.

For myself life would be a living hell.
I have Rheumatoid Arthritis, bamboo spine, chronic back pain after numerous extensive surgeries, celiac disease and severe depression.
I would be in extreme pain and frankly I don't know if I could live like that.
What about my daughter, I would like to see her grow up.

Please consider the human beings you will be hurting, your fellow citizens.
Please find it in your heart to stand up for the people who will be severely impacted.

Put People before Party!

Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy proposal!

THANK YOU!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Barstow [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Please do NOT pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. It hasn't had a chance to be analyzed, there has been no time for input from people and organizations who would be affected. But from what information is available, it appears to make health care insurance unaffordable for something like 32 million people. **That's 32 MILLION.** Far too many of these people will then not seek treatment for ailments that could only be treated in the early stages. Emergency rooms will be overloaded.

In addition, Medicare and Medicaid will be weakened. If it weren't for Medicare, the life-saving surgery I have received would have left me homeless. And I -- and tens of thousands like me -- have saved all I can for my old age, but if I need years and years of nursing home care, only Medicaid will allow it. The salaries I was paid in my younger days did not allow for the current healthcare prices.

Without Medicaid, children will suffer and die. Without the ACA, whole families will die or become homeless. If you care about the people in this country, you will not pass this harmful bill.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rosanne Doyle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham Cassidy .. I have phones Sen Isakson in DC &

ATL .. no position on the bill has been released by his office. His staffers, as an extension of Isakson, refuse to disclose a tabulation on the constituent calls. #shameful

Rosanne Doyle
425 Junction Trak
Roswell, GA 30075

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Silberman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT repeal the ACA

I'm very concerned about the latest attempt to repeal the ACA. I have been self employed since before the ACA meaning that I have been on individual insurance over the past 12 years. I am scared to death about what happens if you take away the 10 essential benefits as I remember what it was like then. I saw my father's \$1.3 million hospital bill 2 years ago when he was sick and went into the ICU. Fortunately, there was no cap so he did not go bankrupt from getting very ill. Before the ACA our individual annual coverage capped out at \$250,000 which is nothing when you are sick. In addition, I have an asthmatic son and the idea of him not having coverage for his pre-existing asthma is very scary. I have friends with cancer who would not be alive if it weren't for the ACA coverage because their benefits would have run out.

Giving the states the right to waive certain benefits is a big mistake. I should not have more or less coverage than my fellow citizen who lives in another state.

I implore you to PLEASE work together to find a bipartisan solution to the health insurance issue in this country. The ACA is far from perfect but it has helped keep many people alive and healthier than they would have been otherwise. Repealing it will be a catastrophe.

Lauren Silberman
5150 Meadowlake Ln
Dunwoody, GA 30338

The Silberman Team
Realtors | Associate Brokers

Lauren: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Web: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Long [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:16 PM
To: info@johnnyisakson.com; gchcomments
Subject: Comments regarding proposed healthcare legislation

Today I am writing as a concerned citizen about this newest proposal for healthcare. I am writing as an intelligent, educated, and scared woman who cannot fathom why anyone would think this bill is a good idea.

I am a daughter of two cancer survivors who would not be able to afford coverage if Georgia was left to settle the issue of pre-existing conditions. I would lose my parents because you want to make your friends get richer. My parents are not poor people. They are hard working retirees who benefited from the Affordable Care Act's rules on pre-existing conditions. High risk pools, which is what states would try to pass off as equal, are not the same thing. They are false hope for people like my parents who both developed cancer not through bad living but through bad luck. My mother was diagnosed with lung cancer. She has never smoked or been in environments that would contribute to that. Her surgeon said that her lungs looked perfect except for that tumor that left her with only half of her left lung. My father has leukemia, yet works every day in his garden and talks of ending his retirement to go back to work because he doesn't trust this congress or president to keep promises to take care of our older generation.

However, this isn't only detrimental to them. I am 41. Prior to ACA, I worked jobs making very little money. I did it for the benefits of health insurance that I couldn't get on my own. I was turned down and rejected from every single plan I applied for because of my previous diagnosis of uterine cancer. Upon getting coverage through the healthcare.gov website, I was able to open my own business and did quite well for myself. However, now I have had to close my business because of nearly monthly threats from Congress acting like people like me don't deserve healthcare coverage.

This would also affect hard working residents of states where medicare doesn't cover nursing homes and assisted living. My aunt, who has no husband or children, is suffering from dementia and severe arthritis. She has worked as a nurse her entire life until a fire took her home five years ago. At age 85 and with a memory span of about 2 minutes, she can't care for herself. Yet we know that if this bill passes and becomes law, she'll have no way to pay for care. Medicaid was the only option we had left for her. She has 38,000 in the bank. That would barely cover a year. Then what? I live in dread every day for the phone call that she has hurt herself or someone else because she became confused. Yet if I move her to a nursing home I will have to give up the home she lives in now. So a year from now where do I place her? How do I know she'll get the care she needs?

You have already killed my dreams of entrepreneurship and creativity. Now you may kill my parents too. I can already tell you that I won't ever vote for you. But now I can tell you that I won't ever forgive you either.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rebecca Ione Long
404-285-2131
77 Sutton Place
Avondale Estates, GA 30002

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Michael Piansky
2431 Glen Oaks Ct NE
Atlanta, GA 30345
6785962197

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allison Kaczenski [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Allison Kaczenski
Subject: Graham Cassidy healthcare bill opposition

Good afternoon -

My name is Allison Kaczenski and I am the mom to two wonderful children. A 5 year old boy who joyfully is healthy. And to a 3 year old daughter, Katelyn, who was born with a rare chromosomal deletion. Due to Katelyn's medical needs I oppose the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill which excludes pre-existing conditions. She should not be denied coverage due to something that she was born with and will have for her entire life. And she should not have a maximum lifetime cap put on her care which she would run through very early in life - how are we setting her up to thrive as an adult?

Our family relies on the Katie Beckett Medicaid Deeming Waiver in Georgia as a SECONDARY form of insurance for Katelyn. This Medicaid Waiver has been critical to the care of Katelyn and to our families financial well being. I continue to work to maintain my private insurance, but have had to reduce my hours in order to be able to better care for both of my children, primarily Katelyn.

Medicaid has allowed our family to continue to be a part of society and help the economy in many other ways and not just paying money to the healthcare system. Any child or adult should not have to fight for their care, should not have to worry about a pre-existing condition, nor worry about choosing what care they receive because they are worried about a maximum lifetime cap.

Please vote NO on the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill and think of all the children who cannot make their voices heard. Please hear this from me, who is one tired and scared mom, please vote no. Please do what is right for the special needs community, the rare disease community and for so many more.

Regards -

[REDACTED]
Lilburn, GA 30047
678-832-9133

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Maerz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: please vote against the Graham-Cassidy legislation

Senators,

You are no doubt inundated with calls, emails, and letters from your constituents as well as Americans from all over the country as you deliberate on your support for the Graham-Cassidy legislation. I am writing you to offer my story among the thousands of stories you have likely heard, in the hopes that my contribution to their collective weight will compel you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy legislation.

I am the proud father of 3 sons. My sons mean everything to me. If you met my sons you would see three thriving young men. You would be unaware that two of them have a rare genetic disorder and that they are thriving in part because of the impact the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has had on their access to quality, affordable healthcare.

Two of my sons were born with a genetic disorder that affects approximately 1 in 5000 children. The disease is manageable with regular monitoring from a specialist and a restricted diet including a reliance on specialty foods and medically necessary formulas. Without this treatment, children born with this disorder gradually descend into mental retardation; their bodies essentially poisoned by their inability to efficiently breakdown a common essential amino acid.

For my oldest son, he spent the first 11 years of his life eating a highly restricted diet and having to have frequent visits with specialists and dietitians to carefully monitor his growth and development. We sustained him mostly on special medical foods such as pastas that cost \$10-\$15 dollars per box (compare that to a box of regular pasta that costs \$1-\$2 dollars). The additional costs of those foods was thousands of dollars per year in addition to a high volume of nutritional formulas, monthly blood tests, and regular trips to cities to meet with specialists. I was fortunate. I had access to good health insurance, and we lived in New York, which mandated coverage of the disorder by insurers, medically necessary foods and nutritional supplements, and seeing specialists. My son could not be excluded from my insurance for a pre-existing condition, so I did not have to purchase additional high risk insurance or make the unbearable decision to go without. However, we witnessed other families who lacked quality insurance, and could not afford direct costs of the medical foods. Just as Jimmy Kimmel noted in his personal story, my son benefited not just from the protections offered by the state of New York, but also by the simple fortune of being my son. It is clearly immoral that other children should not have the same access to care simply because their families could not afford better insurance.

In 2005 we moved to Georgia. We found a quality clinic and I was fortunate to have top health care through my employer. However, unlike New York, Georgia exempted insurers from covering many of the medical needs of my sons. Now with two sons needing treatment, we were forced to meet high deductibles, had only partial or no coverage of medically necessary formulas and foods, and high copays for seeing specialists. We were spending thousands of dollars a year in addition to our regular medical costs for an easily managed disorder simply because Georgia was allowed to set its own standards of insurable care. We were also looking at the reality that our sons could quickly meet our annual and lifetime limits of coverage. Georgia's policies were not about savings, reducing costs, or maximizing coverage for other people. My premiums were higher in Georgia and the state had an abysmal rate of insurance coverage for her citizens. The move from New York to Georgia made another fact clear about healthcare in America. It didn't just matter whether you were fortunate to be born to parents who could provide top health insurance. It also mattered what state you were born or lived in. I cannot imagine anyone could argue it is a conservative value to defend a state's right to decide that their children deserve less access to quality care.

By the time my oldest and youngest sons were 11 and 2, a medicine was developed that revolutionized the treatment of their disorder. The drug worked with their natural body enzymes, allowing them to eat a regular diet. The medicine changed the trajectories of their lives. They are thriving academically and personally. The medicine reduces the chronic, daily challenge of managing their diets, and normalized their disorders into something smaller and routine. The catch. The cost of the drugs was thousands of dollars per child per year, and we were constantly fighting for coverage by our insurance company. Fortunately, the Affordable Care Act came into law and addressed many of the challenges people face when managing chronic diseases and disorders. Georgia could no longer exempt our health insurer from covering the basic care my sons needed, and their medically necessary formulas and the new medicine were now rightly covered as medical prescriptions. They could not be tossed off my insurance for having "pre-existing" conditions, and their medical costs would not threaten our lifetime maximum benefits. Increases in my premiums slowed, and my annual out of pocket expenses were reduced by thousands of dollars a year. Mind you, Georgia would never have enacted policies on her own to improve access to fair and affordable health care. Georgia remains one of the states that has continued to fight against expanded healthcare access for her citizens, and is precisely why federal healthcare policies are so vital.

The Graham-Cassidy legislation will dismantle the federal protections that have insured that my sons and millions of other people were given reasonable access to care. You know full well that the legislation will not increase access to care. There is no economic model where reducing the total amount of revenue spent on healthcare leads to lower premiums and increased coverage. You also know that Graham-Cassidy is, by design, financially punitive to states that have worked hard to maximize health care access, while rewarding states like Georgia that have persisted in their efforts to deny their citizens quality affordable care. Finally, the law will allow states to revert back to the policies that limit lifetime benefits, exclude essential care like women's reproductive care and mental health, and preclude people with high cost disorders or histories of disease. These will undoubtedly force people with pre-existing conditions back into expensive high risk pools or to go without managed care. There will be a return

to expensive plans with fewer benefits that require high deductibles and copays and overall greater out of pocket expenses. **The quality of most American lives will go down. How can we be certain? Because, that was the world we lived in before the ACA.**

I fully recognize that developing a national healthcare system is a complex problem, and I believe you are sincere in your desire to shape a better system for all Americans. I also respect that it is the desire of conservatives to seek solutions to problems that rely more on local control. But despite the rhetoric, Democrats and Republicans know that the federal government has an important role in establishing national minimum standards for all Americans regardless of which state they live in, and for leveling the playing field among states so we function as a union. If you all did not believe in the positive role of the federal government, you would not have dedicated your careers to service in federal governance.

Yes, there are many challenging problems where the decisions that must be made are difficult, but a decision to reject Graham-Cassidy is not one of them. This is a terrible, immoral bill. While it may reduce the influence of the federal government, **it achieves nothing towards improving access to affordable healthcare, improving lives, and it will knowingly hurt millions of people. That is the very definition of government failure. Avoiding such a failure rests with you.**

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service. I hope and expect that you will do the right thing, and withhold your support of the Graham-Cassidy legislation. The people of this country are counting on you.

Respectfully,

Dr. John Macrz
Athens, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Fisher [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

My husband and I are self-employed and for years have faced the challenge of securing quality, affordable healthcare. When the ACA became the law of the land, we were able to purchase insurance that covered us completely. We were fortunate to be healthy up until last year when I was diagnosed with Colon Cancer during a screening colonoscopy. Under ACA, it was covered completely. Fortunately, my cancer was caught early. I had no symptoms. After surgery, my prognosis for a healthy future is excellent. But I now have a pre-existing condition. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. If Graham-Cassidy passes, citizens like me face an uncertain future of how we will be able to afford health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Diane Munzer Fisher
Peachtree Corners, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of bruce johnston [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Hearing Date: September 15 2017

Carole H. Johnston

30 Clarendon Av

Avondale Estates GA 30002

- No CBO score so you have no idea the impact the bill will have either in terms of money or impact on real live Americans
- Bill has not been subjected to regular order, no attempt at bipartisan input, no hearings thus far for stakeholders input
- Best estimates are that millions of Americans will lose health care and that premiums for other Americans will balloon greatly
- No *real* guarantee of protection for those hundreds of thousands of Americans with pre-existing conditions
- Multiple health-related organizations, including the American Medical Association and AARP, are opposed to the contents of the bill
- Even Insurance organizations have voiced opposition to the bill
- All 50 Directors of State Medicaid agencies have opposed the bill
- At least 10 Governors have expressed opposition to the bill
- Estimates put the approval rating at this bill at under 20%

In addition to my concerns about Graham-Cassidy, I am very concerned that the Affordable Care Act, the current law of the land is being starved by the Trump Administration. Surely such an action is political malpractice at best and dereliction of duty to uphold the Laws of the US at worst. The bottom line is that people suffer as a result of the deliberate attempt to sabotage an Act designed to help Americans.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Tomaschik [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Kathryn Tomaschik
[REDACTED]

2645 Fleur de Lis Place
Dunwoody, Georgia 30360-1409

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dorothy C [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Dorothy C
[REDACTED]

P.O. Box 295

Ellenwood, Georgia 30294

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Cruce [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Stop this madness!

Richard Cruce
[REDACTED]

3749 Loveland Terrace
Atlanta, Georgia 30341

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Tomaschik [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Kathryn Tomaschik
[REDACTED]

2645 Fleur de Lis Placw
Dunwoody, Georgia 30360

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon & James BLACKMAN [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sharon & James BLACKMAN

[REDACTED]
Sharon & James

Riverdale , Georgia 30296

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon & James BLACKMAN [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sharon & James BLACKMAN
[REDACTED]

Sharon & James

Riverdale , Georgia 30296

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jawara Pittman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

IN MY VIEW, OFFSHORE ACCOUNTS ARE TO BE DEEMED ILLEGAL, UNLAWFUL & CRIMINAL!

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

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

Jawara Pittman
[REDACTED]

2025 Peachtree Rd. NE, Apt. 533
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-1477

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mandy Mastrovita [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I urge you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello:

I am a constituent from Athens, Georgia urging you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill currently in the Senate. The Graham-Cassidy bill is a disaster for anyone with pre-existing medical conditions, ever for those who have health insurance through their employers. Stop subsidizing the corrupt health insurance industry and do more to make decent health insurance available for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Mandy Mastrovita
175 Tilson Rd.
Athens, GA 30606

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Elizabeth Kelly
[REDACTED]

900 West Tyler St
Dalton, Georgia 30720

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Yates [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jan Yates
[REDACTED]

37 Lakeshore Dr
Forsyth, Georgia 31029

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Rae Young
ryoung1315@yahoo.com
2820 Peachtree Rd. NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30305

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Leaving America helpless

If the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill passes, it will leave Americans, especially with pre-existing conditions, helpless.

My niece has an intellectual and physical disability. She is receiving SSI and has Medicaid. She recently required heart surgery and suffered two brain aneurysms. Her hospital bill was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. If a cap is placed on Medicaid recipients, then a cap is placed on her care and ability to recover, or perhaps survive.

Please place Americans above profit and your donors.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Hodge [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote NO on Graham Cassidy

I am writing to respectfully express my opposition to many of the measures in the new Healthcare Proposal before the Senate. As a middle class woman in my 50's living in Georgia, I cannot express strongly enough how unaffordable healthcare may become for me and many others like me. I have fairly common conditions for my age - hypertension and a cholesterol issue. I can only imagine I will develop more as I age. Should I be denied the ability to get insurance based on those conditions?

At this very moment, I am careful to consider what I tell my medical provider or what tests I let her perform as I feel any "negative" information goes on my permanent record and will be used against me in getting medical insurance. I am thinking twice before seeking medical treatment as prescribed... this is no way to live.

I am painfully aware of how an unexpected illness can impact someone. I was extremely fortunate to have good health insurance (largely available to me because I worked for a company which provided insurance to its employees) when I found I needed to have a brain tumor removed. My husband asked me to add up the bills and see how much that whole illness would have cost if we'd had no health insurance. I couldn't face the idea because I didn't have to add it all up to get a total number. I could hazard enough of a guess to know that it would have added up to us liquidating all our hard earned retirement savings or selling our home (or perhaps both.) Given my circumstance, I was especially proud of John McCain (and the others) who voted no on the last health care reform bill because I felt, he, of all people had a better understanding of the gravity of the situation. Having a hole drilled in your head makes for all kinds of life changes.

Please do not believe that "affordable" really means affordable. Premiums are going up, AND that for which each of us is responsible (deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums) are going up, ostensibly to keep premiums from rising as much as they might.

May I comment that Healthcare Reform seems very targeted at more of an insurance reform rather than a real, meaningful, constructive look at how to better health care and control costs.

I ask both parties to decry partisan politics and find a way to craft an affordable and sustainable health care system for this country. We need to join the rest of the world in providing care for our citizens if we wish to continue as a great nation.

Regards,
Holly Hodge
Rome, Georgia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Duggar [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Republican Health Care Failure

One of the things that angers me most about health care and the Republicans is that for seven years they have not even tried to develop any actual, workable health program. The latest bill makes it absolutely clear that their many long years of opposition, argument and accusation had no underlying purpose at all except to force any and every health program proposal of any kind to fail. They can't hide it anymore--they do not want any type of national health program at all in the United States, and they will sacrifice the health of every last one of us to make that happen.

Republicans offer nothing to the citizens at all in the way of health care, and they never did. They have totally failed to respond in any way to address the clear and obvious needs of their constituencies. They ignore and mock citizens with sick children, aging parents, and wounded veterans without any shame or empathy for our families, our neighbors and our communities. They are empty, soulless and mean, and ultimately hypocritical. They suck up the unlimited health services doled out by the Congressional health program--which is paid for by taxpayers-- while refusing to come to the aid of the voters who put them in office. There is no reason to reelect any of them. If there is justice in the voting booth, 2018 will be the rightful end of the Republican party.

John Duggar
Atlanta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer
healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single
payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare
single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer
healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare single payer
healthcare single payer healthcare single payer healthcare Got it?

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

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

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

Raymond Lampe
[REDACTED]

3186 Vine Circle
Decatur, Georgia 30033

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elak Swindell [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.

Elak Swindell
[REDACTED]

807 Academy Ave.
Waynesboro, Georgia 30830

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kimberley Mason [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health bill

I am against the Graham Cassidy bill which is currently before Congress. This bill will destroy people like my son, who is autistic. He has a pre-existing condition, which means he would likely be charged extra for health insurance. Since 80% of autistic people are unemployed or underemployed due to their disability, it is unlikely that he would be able to afford such coverage. He would not be able to turn to Medicaid under this bill, because funding will be dramatically cut. That means that if he is ever seriously ill, he will face death or bankruptcy. 1 to 2 % of the American population is autistic. That is an awful lot of people that we would be condemning to death. Many of our autistic friends currently live in the community thanks to funding from Medicaid. Under the Graham Cassidy bill, those people would be returned to institutions, where they would have no choice over their own direction in life. That is unacceptable. An America that locks away its disabled people, or flat out lets them die, is not an America I want to live in. I myself have am female and I have a thyroid condition. Both would be considered pre-existing conditions, and would mean that health insurance could be out of my reach.

Every other western nation makes health care available to its people. Our country has the wealth and resources to do the same. We cannot be a great country if we do not care for our citizens.

Please reject the Graham Cassidy bill because it is cruel and destructive legislation.

Sincerely,
Kim Mason
Harlem, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL ACA!

Hello,

My name is Marleese Mills, and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I struggle with mental health issues that sometimes affect my mobility as well. I am not in school and work for a small family-owned restaurant that does not offer insurance. Because of this, it was not until the ACA that I was able to obtain insurance to see a doctor for even a basic check up.

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

Sincerely,

Marleese Mills

Atlanta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenifer Alexander [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.

Jenifer Alexander
[REDACTED]

3336 Woodrun Trail
Marietta, Georgia 30062

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Gordon [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:59 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.

John Gordon
[REDACTED]

3799 Crossvine Bend
Marietta, Georgia 30066

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shyla Nambiar [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

My name is Shyla Nambiar, and I am a resident of Georgia who has an ACA policy. My policy has helped me out greatly in having affordable insurance, as it has millions and millions of Americans across the country. The majority of Americans approve of the program.

I have a pre-existing condition, so I am greatly concerned about changes that will affect coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, as well as risk an increase in premiums, not to mention the repeated attempts to take Medicaid coverage away from people. Instead of inanely attempting to repeal the ACA over and over again, why doesn't Congress work in a bipartisan manner to fix existing problems and strengthen the program? There are millions of people across the country who wonder why you all can't seem to work together and get important legislation done. It is very frustrating to voters who expect you all to get positive things done for this country, not waste time and taxpayer dollars making things worse.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: C [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repair ACA, but don't pass Graham Cassidy bill

Please do not pass this abhorrent bill. The ACA has weaknesses but please do not pass the Graham Cassidy bill. We should be moving toward, not away from, helping people live without fear that an illness will devastate their financial lives. There has to be a less severe remedy. Let's try something more reasonable than this extreme bill.

Thank you,

Coral Stavros
Newnan, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I rely on health insurance coverage obtained through the Affordable Care Act. I will be unable to afford health care, and will possibly be uninsurable, without this coverage. Congress need to fix the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Theresa L. Teague
Atlanta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

Stating in the bill that pre-existing conditions will be covered is misleading. Why open the door for states to make/work around rules? That will permit states to allow exorbitant premiums that may be unaffordable for those suffering. Will Georgia provide means for my 40 year old daughter-in-law breast cancer victim to have adequate coverage at an affordable cost? The Senate cannot possibly know the answer! Again I say, why open that door by giving control over to state government. Vote NO!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing on September 25 in Finance Committee

This bill continues to deny coverage to the most vulnerable. Children will be adversely affected as well as the elderly. Doctors have opposed this which should mean something huge.

Passing this bill will hurt so many Americans and is evidence that the Republican Party can oppose but cannot govern

Deborah H Loftiss
204 Ridge Run Crossing
Athens, Georgia, 30605
Registered Voter

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: C High [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement regarding Graham-Cassidy Bill

No.
Nope.
Nah.
Nuh-uh.
No way.

This bill sucks. It literally sucks the life out of millions.

Cheers,
Thomas High
Atlanta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill comments

Hello,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare and because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. When I was 12 years old, I was attacked by the neighbor's dog which caused my jaw joints to develop incorrectly. I had 12 surgeries throughout my teens and early 20's, and lived in severe pain.

For many years, I was not able to purchase health insurance because of my pre-existing condition. When the ACA was passed, I was able to purchase health insurance and have been able to get appropriate care for my condition. This has allowed me to have a full-time job and be stable for the first time in a long time. Without health insurance, it would be difficult (if not impossible) for me to stay healthy and support my family.

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

Sincerely,
Stacy
Roswell, GA 30075

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

U.S. Senate Finance Committee

Dear Senators:

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Perhaps the dire, unprecedented consequences of this bill will finally be realized by its supporters, when they start hearing from constituents about the deaths of loved ones, in tandem with the inability to pay for their own medical care, food, education, rent, mortgage, transportation, childcare, long-term care, and end of life needs.

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

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

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

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Alpharetta, GA 30022

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3355 Jones Ferry Lane

Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Without insurance, my 12-year-old daughter's daily asthma inhaler would cost us \$500 a month. Without insurance, my husband's treatments for psoriatic arthritis that allow him to move and function would cost us thousands and thousands of dollars. We are so grateful that our insurance has kept these necessary medications within our financial reach.

Universal access to quality, affordable healthcare is a basic human right. The United States is one of only a few first-world nations that does guarantee this right for its citizens. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Congress must demonstrate they work for the American people, and not corporate masters - that they represent all of their constituents, instead of only those individuals who contribute large sums to their campaigns.

If our representatives in Washington D.C. want to regain the respect of the American public, they must act accordingly! Protect our healthcare and require big business to pay its fair share of taxes.

Carol Claus
[REDACTED]

651 Foxcroft Circle SE
Marietta, Georgia 30067-5501

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My Plea for Senate to Vote No on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

My Plea for Senate to Vote No on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

My Name is Yas Abdallah, I am a Grassroots Disability Advocate and a person impacted by Multiple sclerosis (MS). This is my plea for Senate to VOTE NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill. The Bill will decimate the lives of 18 million people in the first year of the bill totaling to 32 million in 10 years by the repealing of the Medicaid expansion of Obamacare without a replacement.

Medicaid provides vital health insurance coverage to the disabled of all ages, seniors, low-income Individuals and war-torn Veterans. Individuals that are residing in a nursing facility could possibly die because they would have no other means if they lose Medicaid. In fact, for those like myself and many other Americans who transitioned out a nursing facility will live in fear of being institutionalized or even homeless!

Medicaid Expansion under Obamacare is a jointly funded program with matching state and federal funds. Under a Medicaid per capita cap, the federal government allocates funding on how much to reimburse states based on enrollment. Unlike current law, funding would not be based on the actual cost of providing services. Much like the proposed block grants, the intent of the per capita caps is to restructure the program and save the federal government money. Inevitably there will be cuts in funding and other negative impacts to Medicaid recipients by;

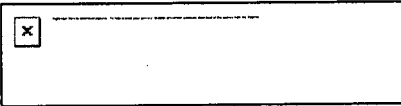
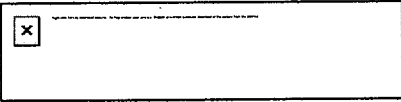
- Eliminating home and community-based services and supports. Waiting lists would quickly grow.
- Deleting other critical services such as personal care, prescription drugs, physical and occupational therapy services. Funding becomes more scarce and states may decide to eliminate services completely.
- States will be forced to institutionalize people with disabilities back to institutions.
- Shifting the costs to individuals or family members to make up for the federal cuts. The costs of providing health care and long-term services and supports will not go away but will be shifted to individuals, parents, states, and providers.

Senators if you ignore my plea by your decision to move ahead with this disastrous health care proposal, you will create an injustice to disabled Americans. I myself as a taxpayer has worked over 40 years prior to my disability retirement. My final desire is; that after 39 of living with MS is to continue to live independently and to respectively die at home with family, Friends and loved ones without the chance of being homeless or destined to die without the appropriate health coverage.

Respectfully,

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

Decatur, GA. 30035
M: 770-369-5556
H: 770-864-1047
F: 770-864-1047



Confidentiality Notice: This message and accompanying documents are covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2521, and contain information intended for the specified individual(s) or entity only. This information is privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering the e-mail to the intended recipient, be advised that you have received this e-mail and any attached files in error and that any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing or copying of this e-mail and /or any attached files is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please immediately notify the sender and destroy the original message and any attached files.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve ACA, Don't Repeal It

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that when my stepdad's job was converted from salary to independent contractor, he lost his employer based healthcare after COBRA ran out. Because he has lupus, without ACA, he would not have been able to get health insurance until he was old enough to qualify for Medicare. This would have been devastating for his health and for our family. ACA literally saved his health and therefore his life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Anna Hall
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The vote on the Health Care Act

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am glad to have the opportunity to share with you my concerns about our health care situation in this country.

First of all, I am 63 years old, so too young for Medicare, and not able to find employment that provides insurance.

I have worked since I was 14 years old. I started out working in Stuckey's Pecan Shoppe for the summer after the 9th and 10th grades. Then I also worked the summers after that.

I worked as a legal secretary from the time my children grew up enough (1986) for me to leave them until I was "Laid Off" from my work in 2011 because of a downsizing created by the financial crisis in 2008. Because of me living in a place different from my years of employment, I have been unable to obtain work in my field I have worked in since 1986. Also, the atmosphere of work changed from employers wanting to be the premier place to provide the best benefits to attract the best workers, to trying to get by the cheapest they possibly could with as little as possible. The price of insurance had been steadily going up for the last 10 years before I was laid off.

I found out that I have Type 2 Diabetes in 2004. This added to my list of chronic sickness, which included hypertension, and then also hyperlipidemia.

When I was working, I was required to see an endocrinologist three times a year. Then that went down to two times a year. Now, I'm getting by with one time a year. That is all my health insurance will pay. **My health insurance is \$760.53, but with my government assistance from the ACA, it is \$318.53.** And that has an extremely high deductible. I can't even remember, but I know it is at least \$3,000 to \$5,000 deductible. So the reality is, that

even with this not quite “affordable” health care, if I go on a hike and catch poison ivy, I will have to use a credit card to pay for a doctor visit. If I catch a cold and develop bronchitis, a situation that happens all too often, I will have to take out a loan to go to the doctor. If, I stumble at work and sprain my ankle or break a bone, I will have to take out a loan to go to the doctor. Most of the time people like me just don’t even go to the doctor. We limp around, and people say, “You should go to the doctor.” And we smile sweetly.

Right now, my sister-in-law is staying with us. She lives over 600 miles away, and has good insurance, but while she was visiting, she fell down and broke her hip. Fortunately, her insurance has covered everything for her because she was a school teacher for 37 years. Because of the health care situation, she is unable to go home, because she is not eligible for home health care, so it falls on my husband and I to care for her. My husband is 74 years old, and has already missed two weeks work. I have had to cut back my work as a retail sales person to one day a week because of severe foot pain. I cannot go to the doctor because I don’t have good enough insurance to see if I could get over this condition quicker and work more days a week to make a little more money.

In the time before my sister-in-law’s visit, I had already told my cousin that I would come stay with her during her spinal surgery, because she is on Medicaid and Medicare both, even though she is much younger than I am. She is in bad shape and had to have surgery on her spine but her insurance would not cover any home health visits or physical therapy for her at all.

Then last week on my step-mother’s birthday, she fell and broke her hip. She is 90 years old, and has had the surgery, but now she has developed some infection complications and has had to go back into the hospital. Her son, my step-brother is taking care of both her and her sister who is one year younger and has dementia. He also has a wife and two younger children under the age of 12 years.

And yet, you representatives of us, “WE THE PEOPLE” want us to not be insured. To me, that is the same as saying, “Just go ahead and die.” The leadership in this country is the most selfish and greedy group of people this world has ever known, or at least harking back to the days of the Chinese Emperors. You are in office to serve us, protect us, the people, and not for your own glorification. That is why you are called “PUBLIC SERVANTS.”

And I didn't tell you the best part. My darling daughter who has five living children, recently plodded away and became a Registered Nurse. She works in the Pediatric Emergency Room for a great hospital. But now you will also be affecting her! Because you plan to uninsured so many needy people, their only recourse is to go to the emergency room where they are already worked extremely hard. Now, everyone will be using the emergency room for their health care, in the hopes that they or their children don't die. Please, please think seriously about your decisions and votes! Please listen to John McCain and try to come to some kind of healthcare system that will keep our nation healthy and make us the shining star of health and prosperity we were from the 1950s through to the 1990s.

Sincerely,


Flintstone, Walker County, Georgia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To the esteemed members of the Senate finance committee I send my most profound prayers that you will not under any circumstance pass the extraordinarily dangerous and evil Graham Cassidy bill. I do not see how anyone could make this the law of the land and maintain a clear conscience. It would be a death sentence for thousands of Americans and would make for miserable lives for millions more. Please I beg of you do not pass this bill.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am mobile please excuse typos etc.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare is Humancare

Dear Congress,

Health Insurance is NOT car insurance or home insurance. We don't "purchase" our health. Healthcare is Humancare.

Long gone are the days of the local country doctor with his black bag and stethoscope. Some of you in Congress seem to be clinging to this outdated, idealized version of healthcare.

Technology has created miraculous and life-saving - but complex, costly medical innovations. These days a serious illness or injury are treated with the best tools available. Most aren't cheap.

Healthcare is Humancare. It's basic logic.

People who have access to good healthcare stay healthier, feel better, work harder and live longer. How can this be "BAD" for any country or business?!

Bankrupting families to pay for their basic healthcare is not only illogical, it's immoral!

Everyone's life matters! From hard-working Janitors, to hard-working Executives, to hard-working Stay-at-Home parents, to ailing, dependent relatives unable or too old to work.

Answer this: Why is it that when government agencies and/or businesses (i.e. Koch Bros., Mercers) want to streamline costs - they always start by sacrificing their most valuable assets - Their constituents/employees?

We never hear of a CEO taking a cut of his multi-million dollar salary to help anyone in his company?

We never hear about a Congressperson turning down millions in donations to instead serve his/her constituents?! Do we?!

The sad and tragic bottom-line is that our Top 2% RICHEST citizens and large corporations are ruling over our GOP Congressional Representatives - who, in turn, are motivated by two main desires: GREED and POWER!

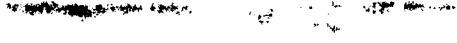
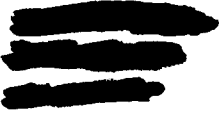
If "We the People" have learned anything over the past year, it's that OUR VOICES, OUR FAMILIES and OUR COMMUNITIES are what will make America Great Again!

We can't count on our representatives to take the right, moral path nor to look out for U.S.

Disagree? Great! Prove it!

Positive, moral ACTIONS (not empty words) are what will create positive differences in all Americans lives.

- And get you re-elected!



Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Randall Mathis

[REDACTED]
345 Woods Rd
MARTIN, Georgia 30557

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Graham Cassidy health care plan

Dear Gentlemen,

My daughter has paranoid schizophrenia and needs constant care that the family can't provide so she's in a group home supplemented by Medicaid and SSI. Her medications are expensive and she has numerous hospitalizations. Please don't cut Medicaid or put caps on the program so my daughter will be taken care of.

Sincerely,
Peggy Reiners

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO! Graham-Cassidy Bill

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

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator Perdue; Senator Johnny Isakson
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill that will reduce funding for our weakest citizens in Georgia

I hope that Senators Perdue and Isakson will not vote to reduce funding to support our Georgia citizens with disabilities as proposed in the Graham Cassidy Bill. Please respond to my email to confirm that you will support the weak and elderly citizens who count on these funds. This issue will send a message to all the citizens of GA on your position on health care and living conditions for the weakest Georgia citizens.

please help these people

FROM: George Head [REDACTED]

--
Note updated info below:

George A. Head
818-929-1531

[REDACTED]
Mail: PO Box 10926
Savannah, GA 31412

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill will devastate families whose children have disabilities

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing today due to grave concerns with the Graham Cassidy bill.

I have a son with autism. My family and many others like ours depend on Medicaid to help pay for the extraordinary costs involved in helping our disabled children with therapies and many needed medical interventions. Should this bill pass, and when the inevitable cuts come, what will our states do will our most vulnerable?

Many parents cannot work when their child has autism. Dealing with autism is a double whammy taking your child's abilities, your earning potential and most of your savings. Under Graham Cassidy, many families like mine will have even fewer options as states cut services that are already sparse.

Developmental disabilities like autism are considered pre-existing conditions. Graham Cassidy excludes insurance coverage for the treatments they require.

Make no mistake -- Graham Cassidy heaps a tragic burden on the backs of those with developmental disabilities. The is an inhumane bill and the American people will not forget the ones who cast their votes against our most vulnerable.

Please do not rush this bill through. Please try to understand the consequences to the people of what you are considering!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Warner Robins, GA
[REDACTED]

Sent from iJoy

Sent from iJoy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:44 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. There are issues with Obamacare, but you just do not repeal a program that provides extensive coverage for those who otherwise have no other legitimate healthcare option just because of your ego or dislike of the former president.

Congress needs to come together and correct the existing issues in Obamacare in a bipartisan manner just like one fixes business processes issues. You just don't throw someone under the bus for political purposes.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: heidi vedder [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Do not approve this horrible bill. You had more than 7 years to actually do some work on healthcare and all you did was obstruct. Now all you know how to do is take away the things that help the citizens of this country. STOPFix the ACA and actually do things to help your constituents and not the Koch brothers and all the other lobbyists. If you would support us...we would support you.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dammer, Eric B [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Bunch of industry beholden corporation interests masked as anti Obamacare idealists

Your stripping our country of a federal universal mandate in the Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill is counter to the uniform nationwide standard needed for actuarial certainty of private insurance to cover our nation's citizens--all of them. Go repeal your own congressional Cadillac plan!

Shame on the US legislature and your committee for standing behind gerrymandered safe representatives in the lower house rather than the will of the people to achieve health and well-being, regardless of income. If you do not expose the feasibility problem of letting each state do something different with federal dollars that were carefully hammered out for use in a US-wide plan that makes it possible for private industry to insure healthy and sick people across the nation, you are derelict in duty. I hope that the committee hearing regarding this bill, which I have heard is to be an irrelevant homeland security or similar committee, blows this farce of a bill, with no redeeming benefits for 98 percent of Americans nor most businesses, out of the water.

I will leave my own position as a Ph.D level researcher on NIH-funded Alzheimer's bioinformatics to campaign full time against my state's own senators Johnny Isakson and David Perdue if this bill or any repeal of a universal mandate short of single, federal, payer reform passes the Senate. Do not underestimate the will of an informed voter base!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Decatur, GA 30033

This e-mail message (including any attachments) is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this message (including any attachments) is strictly prohibited.

If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender by reply e-mail message and destroy all copies of the original message (including attachments).

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Micaela Slotin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:46 PM
To: gchcomments

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The ACA is crucial to the lives of millions of people, most notably those with chronic illnesses, disabilities, and those who cannot afford the astronomical costs of healthcare in this country on their own. We as a society must support and protect the most vulnerable, and repealing the ACA will do exactly the opposite. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

• Savannah, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Turner [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Carolyn Turner
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill and ask that you vote against this bill.

I am a resident of Louisiana. This bill will cut the amount of money to be given to my state and establish block grants. Less than six months ago, I attended a five-hour hearing before the Louisiana Senate Finance Committee at which I opposed a state budget which the Secretary of Health of Louisiana said would require the elimination of ALL mental health services under Medicaid! Fortunately, we were able to beat back this proposal, but I live in fear that more flexibility will be given to the State of Louisiana in the area of healthcare. In this state, we are hanging on by our fingernails financially after two terms under former governor Bobby Jindal, who refused to expand Medicaid. As current Governor John Bel Edwards of Louisiana said in opposing this bill, you have given me flexibility, but have cut funds so I have no choice but to ration healthcare.

I am a retired 70 year old woman living on a fixed income with pre-existing conditions. I worry that premiums will increase to the point I will not be able to afford them. My 68 year old sister has a serious chronic mental illness and receives psychosocial rehabilitation therapy for four hours per day, sees a psychiatrist and psychotherapist, takes psychotropic medications and has a personal care attendant 13 hours a week which enables her to live in her own apartment instead of entering a nursing home. At her age, her expenses are likely to increase and she may eventually require a nursing home some day. This bill proposes to limit expenditures under Medicaid which pays for her care. In addition, it allows states to grant waivers so that insurance companies don't have to cover essential health benefits, which include mental health services. What will happen to my sister if she is not able to be treated for her chronic mental illness? Any society should be judged by how it treats its most vulnerable citizens. Should this bill pass, our country will not do right by its most vulnerable.

I cannot believe that Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana has proposed a bill that will be so harmful to the citizens of his state and that our other senator, John Neely Kennedy, has not spoken out against this bill. Please, please vote against this bill or withhold consideration until after a full scoring by the Congressional Budget Office. I would like my comments placed in the public record.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
3716 Post Oak Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70131
(504) 417-1404
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Plan

Hello

I have purchased my own health insurance since 2011, and since then the premium has tripled and deductible has doubled. With the latest proposal, I fear that health insurance will be out of reach for me just as I turn 56 and start to need it. I know several people, working poor, who are on Medicaid. As a resident of La., I have seen several budget cuts in the past few years, and it always starts with health care. We are the last state in the nation, a poor, sickly uneducated state that would suffer even greater losses if this bill were to pass. I am a former Blue Cross Blue Shield employee with a solid understanding of how health care works. While Dr. Cassidy has practiced medicine, he clearly doesn't understand insurance. We need a bipartisan plan that will withstand changes in majority parties so that Americans are not tossed about as a result. We also need to address the rising costs of care that drive up premiums. Let's start with drug prices. Please put the American people before political parties. Instead of spending billions to kill people with an expanded military budget, invest in American lives.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claire Beimesch [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't Repeal the ACA

To whom it may concern,

My family and my patients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a specialist for children with disabilities and pre-existing conditions, the Affordable Care Act makes care for these children easier and safer. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon

Shreveport, LA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marla Stevens [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 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.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 5:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act comments

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

On Monday, as you debate the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act, I would like these concerns recorded. Any health care bill must:

1. Strip out harmful changes to Medicaid that will wreak havoc on the poor and vulnerable, including the "per capita caps" and block granting (and sunset) of assistance for the millions of families covered by the recent Medicaid expansion;
2. Ensure that any bill retains its current Hyde amendment protections for the unborn by prohibiting use of federal funds for abortions or plans that cover it;
3. Include conscience protections for those involved in the health care system.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has been clear that: no repeal ought to take place without a concurrent replacement; such a replacement must ensure that those who most depend on affordable health care can reliably access it; it respects the dignity of all including the unborn; and that such a replacement plan must not leave the poor in worse circumstances.

The Senate can fix problems with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in a bipartisan way: by extending full Hyde Amendment protections to the ACA, enacting laws that protect the conscience rights of all stakeholders in health care, protecting religious freedom, and passing legislation that begins to remove current and impending barriers to access and affordability, particularly for those most in need.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act instead does the following:

- Creates block grants that replace both Medicaid expansion funding and marketplace subsidies and caps and deeply cuts the rest of the Medicaid program. And, after 2026, the block grant would disappear entirely leaving Louisianans high and dry.
- Ends the Medicaid expansion as we know it - putting at risk the 437,000 Louisiana citizens who are covered under Medicaid expansion (which reduced our uninsured rate by 10%).
- Rolls back protections for Americans with pre-existing conditions.
- Allows states to impose burdensome work requirements as a condition of Medicaid coverage.
- Eliminates tax credits that help 122,000 moderate-income Louisiana residents afford marketplace coverage and subsidies that help low-income residents with out-of-pocket health costs like copays.

Additionally the focus on getting this bill passed before September 30 draws attention away from the bi-partisan Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) which must be re-authorized by September 30 and on which 1 in 10 Louisiana children rely. CHIP cannot be allowed to expire.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message has been scanned by the Archdiocese of New Orleans Virus/Spam filter.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 5:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

On Monday, as you debate the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act, I would like these concerns recorded. Any health care bill must:

1. Strip out harmful changes to Medicaid that will wreak havoc on the poor and vulnerable, including the "per capita caps" and block granting (and sunset) of assistance for the millions of families covered by the recent Medicaid expansion;
2. Ensure that any bill retains its current Hyde amendment protections for the unborn by prohibiting use of federal funds for abortions or plans that cover it;
3. Include conscience protections for those involved in the health care system.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has been clear that: no repeal ought to take place without a concurrent replacement; such a replacement must ensure that those who most depend on affordable health care can reliably access it; it respects the dignity of all including the unborn; and that such a replacement plan must not leave the poor in worse circumstances.

The Senate can fix problems with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in a bipartisan way: by extending full Hyde Amendment protections to the ACA, enacting laws that protect the conscience rights of all stakeholders in health care, protecting religious freedom, and passing legislation that begins to remove current and impending barriers to access and affordability, particularly for those most in need.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act instead does the following:

- Creates block grants that replace both Medicaid expansion funding and marketplace subsidies and caps and deeply cuts the rest of the Medicaid program. And, after 2026, the block grant would disappear entirely leaving Louisianans high and dry.
- Ends the Medicaid expansion as we know it - putting at risk the 437,000 Louisiana citizens who are covered under Medicaid expansion (which reduced our uninsured rate by 10%).
- Rolls back protections for Americans with pre-existing conditions.
- Allows states to impose burdensome work requirements as a condition of Medicaid coverage.
- Eliminates tax credits that help 122,000 moderate-income Louisiana residents afford marketplace coverage and subsidies that help low-income residents with out-of-pocket health costs like copays.

Additionally the focus on getting this bill passed before September 30 draws attention away from the bi-partisan Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) which must be re-authorized by September 30 and on which 1 in 10 Louisiana children rely. CHIP cannot be allowed to expire.



This message has been scanned by the Archdiocese of New Orleans Virus/Spam filter.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 7:58 PM
To: gchcomments

PLEASE try again and get a bipartisan agreement on changes to the ACA. Give special thought to those who will no longer be able to get the care they need. It can be done. Joan Bringaze
9511 Creekview Dr.
Apt 220
Baton Rouge, LA 70836
I have been voting and supporting candidates financially for over 60 years. Thank You JB

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 9:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act
Attachments: Health Care Proposal.docx

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

The attached comments by Robert Gorman on the proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act express my sincere beliefs. This proposal is less about policy and more about a "last chance stand" to push through a state-by-state "build-your-own" system in which every state can write its own rules.

Sixteen patient and provider groups oppose this bill:

ALS Association, the 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.

The poor and middle class, those most vulnerable to skyrocketing health costs, deserve better.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

This bill will adversely affect so many people I know, one person who has a brain tumor, one who has arthritis, not to mention my sister who has had RA since she was 30 years old. I am remarkably healthy to be 71 1/2, but I can't in fairness not object because of all the people, those I know and those I don't, who will suffer because of it. I think in the long run, you-all will regret it if this bill gets passed. Your constituents are going to remember.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO NO NO on Graham-Cassidy

...Need I say more?

NO NO NO...PLEASE

Joyce Thomas
New Orleans, La

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Health Bill Hearing

From: Andrea DeJean [REDACTED]
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Health Bill Hearing
Date: September 21, 2017 at 1:00:40 PM CDT
To: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

ATTN: Senate Finance Committee
Re: Hearing on the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill
Date: Monday, September 25th, 2017

From: [REDACTED]
404 Hidden Wood Drive
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 230-3473
[REDACTED]

We are writing to you in strong opposition of the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill. We are a middle class family that relies on Medicaid waiver to keep our daughter Lillian alive. Both Paul and I are college educated, working professionals. I am a veteran of the Louisiana National Guard. We are humbled and heartbroken to know that regardless of how many degrees or promotions we achieve in our profession, we will NEVER be able to afford the medical costs to keep Lillian alive. Our daughter Lillian is 15 years old and was diagnosed with Mitochondrial Disease at the age of 6. Lillian sees 7 specialists all of which are 3-4 hours from our home. She requires the use of a ventilator, feeding pump, Medi-port, and endless prescriptions. Lillian requires a compounded cocktail to maintain organ function; insurance and Medicaid do not pay for this. The cocktail costs our family \$500 per month. Total out of pocket medical costs for our family in 2016 were \$21,000. This is with both private insurance and Medicaid coverage. We have been told that Mitochondrial Disease is one of the most expensive diseases to treat. Lillian's future insurability is threatened with the current proposed bill. Indeed Lillian falls into the "pre-existing condition" category and would be a high risk client. In addition, Lillian's medical claims reach \$500,000 annually and she would quickly meet and exceed any lifetime caps that are put in place by the freedoms being offered to insurance companies under the proposed bill. In addition to private insurance coverage, Lillian was offered Medicaid through the New Opportunities Waiver in our state of Louisiana. This waiver allows individuals like Lillian to receive Medicaid based on medical need and waves the family's income requirement that is typically associated with Medicaid. Waivers are an optional program offered by some states and with block grants those optional programs are threatened. Without Medicaid we would have to take drastic measures to ensure Lillian gets what she needs. There's no fury like that of a parent whose child's life is being threatened. Please understand that the government dollars that are being invested in Lillian's future are not being wasted. We have taught her that she has to get an education and she has to work. Lillian understands that for all the opportunities of life she has been given she is to give back to her community.

Senator Cassidy has met and served families like ours and understands the exorbitant medical costs for a child like ours. In fact, our family has contacted his office repeatedly regarding his previous support of the repeal efforts. We were told that he heard our concerns. Lillian's story has been featured on the front page of our state newspaper The Advocate. Lillian has been a self advocate and testified in front of the state House Ways and Means Committee. In addition, she rode a bus to DC with other families to meet Senator Cassidy so he could fully appreciate and understand who he was impacting with such unethical legislation. We are exhausted but will NEVER stop fighting for Lillian's life.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Nicole and Paul DeJean

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Heck NO to Graham-Cassidy Bill! MEDICARE 4 ALL!

As a former Louisiana citizen who moved out of state because of years of oppressive and disastrous Republican policy, I'm not surprised my former Senator is proposing such catastrophically dangerous legislation to repeal and replace the ACA. Here's a hint- the ACA works, Congress does not- fix it, don't kill it! You're playing with fire and endangering millions of vulnerable citizens. It's time to put country before party and pass MEDICARE FOR ALL- SINGLE PAYER HEALTHCARE NOW!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

[REDACTED]
188 J T Griggs Rd
Calhoun, LA 71225
9039182520

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Katherine Collins
188 J T Griggs Rd
Calhoun, LA 71225
9039182520

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect affordable health care for all Americans!

Dear Committee: it is unconscionable that the Senate is even considering the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is worse than the previous bills aimed at repealing the ACA. It will end Medicaid as we know it- hurting millions of Americans, it will most likely end protections for pre-existing conditions because insurance companies will no longer have to honor that clause. This bill if passed will disrupt the markets even more and cause Insurance rates to go up and amount of coverage to go down!

Like it or not, the American people want healthcare and see as a Right. This bill must not pass!

Aimée Dominique, LCSW
LOUISIANA 70503

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Health Bill Hearing

ATTN: Senate Finance Committee
Re: Hearing on the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill
Date: Monday, September 25th, 2017

From: Lillian DeJean
404 Hidden Wood Drive
Lafayette, LA 70508

I am fifteen years old. My name is Lillian DeJean, and I was diagnosed with Mitochondrial Disease ten years ago. Mito affects the way my body produces energy, and because of that, I always expect to need assistance. I want an independent future, but my only way of achieving that is through Medicaid. Medicaid provides me with a support worker, and insurance coverage that combats the exorbitant medical costs that accompanies Mito. It helps keep my family afloat, and will be the key to my independent future. It, as it turns out, is extremely difficult to afford a ventilator, bi-weekly infusions through a Medi-port, vitamins compounded specifically for me (out-of-state, I might add), and visits with seven specialists. We are a middle-class family; both of my parents are college-educated, working individuals, but unfortunately, we still cannot afford my life-sustaining medical care without the help of Medicaid.

I have advocated many times for what I, and many others, need. I've gone to our state capitol to testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee against the DHH Budget Cuts. I have taken a 25-hour bus trip D.C. to advocate against the Medicaid cuts. Now I am writing this testimony to implore you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill. I am fifteen, and I shouldn't have to be fighting for what I need to survive. I understand that you are in a tricky situation. Passing this bill, however, would be detrimental to many Americans' livelihood, and it would put us in an even trickier situation than what we started out in. So, in conclusion, I am writing to implore you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill. By doing this, you are giving a voice to people who don't have one. Thank you for your time.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Health Bill Hearing

ATTN: Senate Finance Committee
Re: Hearing on the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill
Date: Monday, September 25th, 2017

From: Paul and Nicole DeJean
404 Hidden Wood Drive
Lafayette, LA 70508
(337) 230-3473
[REDACTED]

We are writing to you in strong opposition of the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill. We are a middle class family that relies on Medicaid waiver to keep our daughter Lillian alive. Both Paul and I are college educated, working professionals. I am a veteran of the Louisiana National Guard. We are humbled and heartbroken to know that regardless of how many degrees or promotions we achieve in our profession, we will NEVER be able to afford the medical costs to keep Lillian alive. Our daughter Lillian is 15 years old and was diagnosed with Mitochondrial Disease at the age of 6. Lillian sees 7 specialists all of which are 3-4 hours from our home. She requires the use of a ventilator, feeding pump, Medi-port, and endless prescriptions. Lillian requires a compounded cocktail to maintain organ function; insurance and Medicaid do not pay for this. The cocktail costs our family \$500 per month. Total out of pocket medical costs for our family in 2016 were \$21,000. This is with both private insurance and Medicaid coverage. We have been told that Mitochondrial Disease is one of the most expensive diseases to treat. Lillian's future insurability is threatened with the current proposed bill. Indeed Lillian falls into the "pre-existing condition" category and would be a high risk client. In addition, Lillian's medical claims reach \$500,000 annually and she would quickly meet and exceed any lifetime caps that are put in place by the freedoms being offered to insurance companies under the proposed bill. In addition to private insurance coverage, Lillian was offered Medicaid through the New Opportunities Waiver in our state of Louisiana. This waiver allows individuals like Lillian to receive Medicaid based on medical need and waves the family's income requirement that is typically associated with Medicaid. Waivers are an optional program offered by some states and with block grants those optional programs are threatened. Without Medicaid we would have to take drastic measures to ensure Lillian gets what she needs. There's no fury like that of a parent whose child's life is being threatened. Please understand that the government dollars that are being invested in Lillian's future are not being wasted. We have taught her that she has to get an education and she has to work. Lillian understands that for all the opportunities of life she has been given she is to give back to her community.

Senator Cassidy has met and served families like ours and understands the exorbitant medical costs for a child like ours. In fact, our family has contacted his office repeatedly regarding his previous support of the repeal efforts. We were told that he heard our concerns. Lillian's story has been featured on the front page of our state newspaper The Advocate. Lillian has been a self advocate and testified in front of the state House Ways and Means Committee. In addition, she rode a bus to DC with other families to meet Senator Cassidy so he could fully appreciate and understand who he was impacting with such unethical legislation. We are exhausted but will NEVER stop fighting for Lillian's life.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Nicole and Paul DeJean

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I beg you, do not destroy ACA

Hello,

My daughter, a self-employed artist in New Orleans, depends on ACA for her health insurance. My mother in law, who has advanced Alzheimer's, is in a nursing home in Louisiana mostly paid for by Medicaid thanks to the expansion of Medicaid through ACA. She is totally out of money and the costs per month is \$5,000. Her pension helps to pay for her expenses also. I have multiple myeloma (bone marrow cancer) which is thankfully in remission. I am terrified that if this bill goes through and my husband should lose his job and our insurance with it I will no longer be able to get coverage. I take a chemotherapy pill daily whose monthly list price cost is \$13,000.

Good health insurance doesn't just make for a healthier country, it allows people to have savings to invest in the future of the country rather than in the health care industry.

Yes, ACA needs improvements, all of our major programs such as Social Security and Medicare went through adjustment periods to work out the kinks, that's the way it works. No major social program is born perfect. But Congress needs to be holding hearings on the ridiculous prices charged for medications and for hospital care, and not spend all their time trying to destroy the unwealthy by making them unhealthy, both physically and financially.

I have contacted Bill Cassidy's office several times but never received a response.

Thank you,
Jane Thomas
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
225-281-2133

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Say NO to the Graham/Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Committee –

I am Jamie Duplechine and I live in Lafayette. I receive Medicaid benefits, Medicare benefits, and a waiver program that is funded by the state's Medicaid program. Through this program, the New Opportunities Waiver program (NOW), I have been able to live independently while receiving 24 hour care. I was on a waiting list for about 10 years before I was eligible to receive this program. I was grateful that I was able to rely on other waiver programs that provided care for me until the NOW services were available for me. These services have provided me with a much better quality of life as it has given me independence and a chance to fulfill many dreams that I have always had. I was able to finish college – I have acquired two associates degrees – Computer Information Systems & Theology – and currently working on an Advanced Diploma in Theology and a Bachelors Degree in Christian Ministry. I was honored to have the opportunity to represent Louisiana as the Ms. Wheelchair Louisiana 2015 & Ms. Wheelchair Louisiana USA 2017 titleholder. I am an active board member of the Brain Injury Association of Louisiana and United Spinal Association Louisiana chapter and a Council member of the Louisiana's Statewide Independent Living Council. I am a recent graduate of Louisiana's Partners in Policymaking Program and a Certified Peer Mentor through the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation and United Spinal Association. I am an active member of Toastmasters International and will be pursuing a career in Public/Motivational Speaking. I am also currently in the process of writing my first book.

Without Medicaid's funding of these waiver programs, I would not be a successful individual as I am today. I would have never been able to find my own sense of "normalcy" without these funds. I was injured at 15 years old and at the time of injury I felt as though my life was over... I didn't have much hope for my future. These programs have provided me the opportunity to continue my life in the best way possible. I know, personally, several children who could not only lose an opportunity at fulfilling their dreams, but even more... They can lose the opportunity at life because of existing health problems and without Medicaid they would have to live in an environment where they would not be able to be cared for in the way they need. No one is exempt from disability... If there aren't funds in place for one with a disability to continue living life as a functioning citizen, what happens if we are all stricken with disability??

If the Graham/Cassidy health care bill is passed, this will also hurt people with pre-existing conditions who need insurance to maintain their health so that they can, also, continue living a life of opportunities and independence.

Say no to the healthcare bill as it is going to severely hurt your constituents... Your people... Your fellow Louisianains... Your family!!

Thank you so much for your time and consideration!

Jamie Duplechine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patrick Gray [REDACTED] m>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Roman Todd Medicaid recipient
Attachments: IMG_21231.jpg; IMG_21241.jpg; IMG_21221.jpg; IMG_21141.jpg; IMG_21181.jpg; IMG_18081.jpg; IMG_17751.jpg; IMG_17501.jpg; IMG_12351.jpg

Roman is currently back in the hospital for the second time this month due to breathing complications. If Medicaid is cut and capped he will die and his parents will go bankrupt.

On Sep 21, 2017 1:35 PM, "Patrick Gray" <[REDACTED]@gmail.com> wrote:

On Jun 27, 2017 1:25 PM, "Patrick Gray" <[REDACTED]@gmail.com> wrote:

This is our grandson Roman Rhett Todd. He was born February 29, 2016 at only 24 weeks gestation . He was in the neonatal ICU for the first 6 months of his life and has been hospitalized 4 more times since. Earlier this month he was having severe breathing troubles and his parents took him to the Little Rock, Arkansas Children's Hospital. While he was there the doctors did a follow up CAT scan on his brain to check on the shunt in his head for severe brain bleeds. They found the shunt had malfunctioned and he was rushed into operation. Afterward his breathing got much worse and his status declined rapidly. At one point his carbon dioxide levels reached 98% and he nearly died. He was in the hospital for two weeks recovering.

Roman is severely developmentally delayed. Sixteen months have gone by since he was born and he is still physically and mentally like a newborn. He can't sit up on his own, he can't even hold his head up straight for more than a few seconds. He doesn't crawl or even have the ability to roll from his stomach to his back. Though being disabled Roman is the happiest little boy, he wins over the hearts of all around him in moments.

Because of Medicaid Roman is still alive and thriving. He receives physical, occupational, and speech therapies from a Medicaid funded program for disabled children locally in Cabot, Arkansas.

Roman's father works for a Wal-Mart distribution center out of Searcy, Arkansas. Roman's mother is a stay at home mom taking care of Roman and taking him to doctor appointments.

My wife, Andrea, and I have Roman over on the weekends and sometimes during the week to give our daughter some rest from taking care of him. Roman is the love of our lives. He is sweet and loves to be held and even kisses back when kissed. Roman's laughter is contagious when you tickle him.

Even with Medicaid, Andrea and I help our daughter and son-in-law with paying for medication and medical supplies as Medicaid only provides a limited amount each month. This 800 billion dollar cut and caps on Medicaid will send our family into bankruptcy and possibly Roman's death.

Please vote against this horrible and immoral bill.

Sincerely,
Patrick and Andrea Gray

premiums significantly. Then guess what happened a few months later. Our insurer raised our rates a second time, added an additional \$150/mo cost to our premium as a "mid year adjustment due to UNCERTAINTY."

So, I can personally thank republican efforts to repeal the ACA after red states have already allowed insurers to do so and waste our taxpayer funded time and dollars, to focus on a fake repeal after insurers already proved in my state they will continue to raise premiums and restrict care irregardless of the ACA. We all know this, and continuing to ignore reality and truth in the market is both disingenuous and cruel. We all deserve better and more effective representation.

Conclusively, there are no consumer protections for individuals in the health insurance market. We are an exploited minority. It is important that you are aware this is occurring and has been occurring for many years. The ACA is not the problem, and suggesting it is not only misses the point, it endangers our health and lives by repealing the limited protection we had with it. By not addressing the real elephant in the room, which is the need for a public option for all citizens outside the employer based system, you do the nation a great disservice.

As insurers will tell you plainly, they consider all clients outside the employer system as high risk and price their plans and restrict access intentionally and according to their shareholders best interests. As a nation supposedly upholding free market principles, global business competitive advantages and protecting entrepreneurs and the self employed from unfair, unreasonable and unaffordable insurer exploitation in the individual market, the only way to truly begin to bring much needed stability and relief to insurers, employers, doctors and citizens is to provide choice. The best way to do this is simply add a Medicare option for purchase to the exchange. This will allow mobility in the workforce essential for economic growth and prosperity and relieve our companies of this ridiculous financial burden their global competitions do not have.

I hope you will consider these points reflecting real issues that have faced just one family, among a family of millions who face these challenges unnecessarily each and every day. I hope you will be informed and energized to take meaningful action to help workers and corporations by encouraging a free market choice to purchase private or public Medicare health insurance so that the American people can support the programs, plans and/or companies by choice, rather than monopolized extortion. Let's be honest, not having health insurance isn't really a responsible free market choice like buying a product. Without it, your health and life is at risk because so few of us could afford care without it, even for the most basic health challenges we might face.

I implore you to reject the Graham Cassidy bill and collaborate with all sides, all constituents, especially those who don't have the luxury, protection and negotiation power of HR departments delivering an entirely different system of healthcare we simply cannot access and deserve as American taxpayers and citizens.

Sincerely,

Dr. Amy Czyz

Sent from my iPhone

intentionally do not sell the same networks, access and quality care to individuals as are available to those covered in employer based plans. In the past year my primary doctor wanted me to seek care at the Mayo Clinic due to a multiple systems problem requiring collaborative care and communication uniquely available in the Mayo system. My particular plan network name is one that both my insurer and Mayo advertise as accepted as Mayo in network. After scheduling an appointment, Mayo called me to inform me that my particular plan excludes Mayo coverage by my insurer even though my network is called the same name. I contacted my insurer and was told that only employer based plans under my network are allowed to access Mayo and my insurer does not sell ANY individual plans with Mayo access even though my network name is called the same. I can't buy what insurers refuse to sell. I'm paying over \$17k each year for restricted access sub par care simply because I'm self employed and barred by insurers from purchasing same quality and accessible care as employers and employees. No, I can't just become an employee either. As a doctor, my state laws rightfully require me to only be employed by a physician owned company to protect public health and welfare. Thus, employment options are limited, few and far between.

5. Misleading access and coverage. To add insult to injury, the restricted access and coverage unique to individual plans is intentionally dubious and designed to have individuals seek care by who they think are in network providers only to find out later that they weren't covered and receive a bill from providers. First, whenever a doctor calls to determine patient eligibility from the insurer, the call initiates with a disclaimer that eligibility is not guaranteed until a claim is received, meaning services already provided. This means both patient and provider can't determine eligibility prior to services being rendered in good faith, putting both in a financially vulnerable position. Secondly, the insurer data is not up to date and in some cases intentionally misleading clients. Because I am aware that my network has special restrictions placed upon me as an individual that employed clients with same network don't have, I have an additional burden of rechecking and confirming multiple times that a provider is in network. Recently my daughter injured her hand and needed to see a pediatric orthopedic specialist. When I called my insurer for a list of covered providers for MY plan given the unique restrictions of which I informed my insurer representative, she gave me a list from her database and assured me I had many choices in my zip code area. She gave me a list of the first five providers. Two had disconnected phone numbers (outdated information) and the other three were Mayo providers and a Mayo facility. Had I followed the instruction of the insurer representative I would have taken my daughter to a Mayo doctor and then received a bill for non covered, out of network services. I called the three providers she gave and confirmed with their billing offices that indeed, although my insurer assured me that they were in network, they are not, and I would be financially responsible for all services. I then had to call my insurer a second time and request a specialist to personally research and locate specialists who were truly in network for my plan and not just falsely advertised on my insurer website portal and insurer representative database. Ultimately, it took her two hours to research this and find the nearest in network specialist over thirty five minutes away. I was restricted from seeing any of the available specialists in my area.

6. THE INSURERS ALREADY REPEALED THE ACA. Insurers in my state effectively repealed the ACA in the summer of 2016 when they left the exchange in my state. You should know this, a year of data exists. If you don't know this, you aren't talking to the right people like your actual constituents in the individual market, and have completely abdicated your duty to due diligence. Upon learning that I could not even purchase a policy in AZ that includes Mayo access (the high quality care Senator McCain has also heralded), I researched switching to another insurer. Two insurers explained to me that as an individual, as of August 2016, I and my family would be subject to pre existing condition exclusions and lifetime caps. During my call both insurers proceeded to underwriting questions during the call, just as things existed prior to ACA passage. I questioned the insurer representatives and stated that it was my understanding that the ACA remains the law of the land and is in effect even if an insurer has exited the exchange marketplace, which is different. Both insurer representatives said that I was wrong, that the insurer's position was that by leaving the exchange, the ACA no longer applied. I proceeded to file a formal complaint with the Arizona Attorney General's office verbally and online in writing. The AG refused to investigate insurers intentionally violating the ACA, thereby permitting insurers to rescind the protections the ACA attempted to provide to individuals.

What do you think happened once the ACA was effectively repealed with the AG's permission in Arizona? Our premium was raised nearly 20%. The relief of getting away from the "burden of Obamacare" caused the insurer to raise our

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Czyz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am an individual market Arizonan, self employed doctor, since 2002. Insurers have consistently exploited the individual market with high premiums, deductibles, restricted access and extortion like practices. Here are a few examples that have affected me and my family personally. The world of the individual market is vastly different than the plans and protections afforded in the employer based system. This is why I urge a no vote as well as a bill permitting non employed citizens to purchase Medicare and have equal access, treatment regarding health care and be shielded from exploitation unique to the individual market.

Personal examples:

1. My youngest child was born with a congenital problem requiring neurosurgery at four months of age. A few months after his surgery, our insurer "lost" our monthly automatically debited insurance premium payment. It had been removed then returned to our account suspiciously and at first we did not notice it. The insurer used this as grounds to say we were late and cancelled our policy. We were then considered as an entire family to be uninsurable by multiple insurers until my child reached age two. We were told no family member could have insurance because our minor was not eligible to be insured until age two following the congenital higher risk problem. We lived in panic for over eighteen months uninsured not by our own doing, but exploitive insurer practices who wanted us off their books.
2. AZ insurers can and do eliminate maternity coverage with HSA plans forcing families to pay over 10k for labor and delivery out of pocket. They do not inform customers they automatically lose maternity coverage with HSA plans. I had a maternity rider on my policy for years, was not informed when I changed my policy to the HSA version that the company rescinded the maternity rider without notification and only discovered this when I presented to my doctor for prenatal care confirming I was eight weeks pregnant and now ineligible for maternity coverage should I change policies or switch to another company. The insurer informed me they do not sell any HSA policies in AZ with maternity coverage. I was terrified of giving birth at home without pain management, and had to sadly be relieved my child developed a complication of pregnancy allowing me to have insured protection during delivery. Without being insured we would not have been in the hospital and my child would have died. The only thing that allowed us to be insured was the fact complications of pregnancy arose. Making maternity coverage optional or non covered will endanger the lives of children and mothers. Insurers have a financial incentive and fiduciary responsibility to increase profit, and maternity care is expensive. Congress must protect the health and well being of all citizens, not subject mothers or infants to health risks at the urging of insurer shareholders.
3. With one positive Pap test, a common finding among women, my insurer informed me that my entire female reproductive system would be considered a preexisting condition and therefore exempt from coverage. Once again, my family was forced to be uninsured because if I had accepted the exclusion of my reproductive system as a policy, that would forever be part of my insurance eligibility or in this case, ineligibility. It was only after the ACA passed and preexisting conditions and caps were eliminated that we could be fully insured in the event in the unthinkable, which is the point of insurance. Exclusions exist to protect shareholders and intentionally endanger the health and lives of the insured. This cannot be permitted in any advanced and humane society.
4. Restricted plans and networks specifically targeting individual policies. Let me be crystal clear. As an individual market client, I cannot buy the same or similar plans, networks or coverages as employed based policies and plans in my state. Insurers, by their own admission, consider clients outside of the employer based system as higher risk and therefore

do you think will ever be granted?? hmmm. You probably won't speak to that big factor, either. None of our Senators/Representatives have when asked.

Now on to my situation. I am 62 years old. I will have to work until 70 to max out my social security benefit (if that even remains intact since you are looking for any means to rape our precious systems to provide more money to work with for your tax break ideas for the wealthy) I am also the first generation born here in the United States. My father was born in Europe worked hard and raised us kids to work hard, too. I have never been fairly (as would a man) paid for the job that I've been doing most of my life. Even so, it has never stopped me from doing the best job that I can. I work hard, I work overtime (for free), I go above and beyond what is asked of me. All of my hard work ethics has only put more money in my employers pockets, not mine. I watch everyone around me take vacations every year, something I cannot afford but am happy for those who can. There was a time when my annual review would provide me with a raise that gave me a few extra dollars in my wallet. But now, the rising cost of my healthcare (which is partially subsidized by my employers) negates any increase in salary. Matter of fact, last year, my salary went down. When you talk about messing with a healthcare system that will allow my employer to no longer provide health insurance, that scares me. I know what is already taken from my salary makes my budget very tight and if i will be left on my own to find healthcare as i get older...to pay the total amount out of pocket will ruin me. I may not have a serious health issue to worry about...but the rising costs are a huge concern. Something i cannot endure and still get by. But my concerns lie with everyone else that has these health issues, or children or adults with addictions or simply rely on Medicaid because their jobs don't pay them enough that they would EVER be able to afford their premiums under your obscene health care bill. Why can't you be honest about it's content? Why the rush? Why the sneaking around? If it was the Democrats...you guys would be screaming all over Fox news, talk radio...every outlet you could find demeaning and lambasting what the Democrats are trying to pull.... Everything needs tweaking...of course a healthcare plan needs to be funded, reviewed and tweaked every so often. That doesn't make it bad as it is. Do you read or listen to what people who use Obamacare have said? They like what they have...it works for them. They finally have coverage. Have you listened to what the doctors and hospitals have said...? This is and should be about being human..... can you hear that? can you feel that? can you feel it in your heart? This isn't about you guys lording your power over us for your own personal gains. That is just gutless and evil. Think about if you were in our shoes..... but I guess for many of you, that is even too hard to even comprehend.

I am speaking from my heart from one human being to another.....please, please don't do this to us. Please do not pass this healthcare bill...please. It is wrong...people will die as a result of your decision. People will die because of your egos. There are ways to make a better plan. Please, don't do this to us.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Calhoun [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Republican Senator sponsors Bill Cassidy, Lindsey Graham, and Dean Heller created a bill that if passed will gut Medicaid funding, punish states that expanded Medicaid by cutting their funding, make insurance premiums skyrocket and deprive approximately **32 million more Americans from healthcare in less than 10 years time**. According to John Kasich, the people who will be hurt by this bill is the American public.

Graham and Cassidy say there will be provisions for people with preexisting conditions to get healthcare if their state does not choose to cover preexisting conditions. One can imagine that the insurance companies might be willing to write a policy for someone with preexisting conditions. What do you think the cost would be? Who doesn't have a preexisting condition? Although I am on Medicare (which I love), I have a chronic disease, rheumatoid arthritis, that requires a very expensive medication to control it (Enbrel – over \$2800 a month). I, fortunately, pay only \$47 a month because of my supplemental insurance (I also pay a costly monthly premium for this coverage than a Medicare Advantage Plan. How long will that last? Will seniors have to choose between medications and buying food?

Some other reasons why this bill is so bad are the following:

- **End employer-provided health coverage for many Americans.**
- **Eliminate subsidies** that help middle- and low-income people purchase health plans.
- **Dramatically cut funding to support states' Medicaid costs and allow states to impose work requirements on Medicaid beneficiaries**, an attack that could leave millions of people with disabilities and low-income families without health coverage. Many of people on Medicaid are children. The coverage go vary greatly from state to state.
- **Give states the power to remove more expensive health services like maternity care from the list of essential benefits** that insurance providers are required to cover.
- **Defund Planned Parenthood.**

I am very angry that the Senate is STILL trying to gut Medicaid and take away health care from millions of people. This bill is inhumane and should not go forward. Thank you for reading my comments.

Christine Calhoun

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Vogel [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I feel this is the worst proposal yet. Millions will go without insurance. Shame on the senate for proposing something this awful and trying to railroad it through. Why is it that most of the free world can come up with decent healthcare for its citizens and we are at the mercy of big insurance companies who pour money into the pockets of people who are supposed to be representing us.

I'm totally disgusted with the whole mess.

Sincerely,
Mary Vogel
Bloomington, Illinois

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marcia Frank [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill

Please show that you really mean what you say when you say you are “**prolife**” and vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy bill!

- Approximately 130 million **nonelderly** people have pre-existing conditions nationwide, (**an average of more than 300,000 per congressional district [Data set here: <https://cdn.americanprogress.org/content/uploads/2017/04/05080651/pre-existing-conditions-by-congressional-district.xlsx>]**). Your bill eliminates mandatory coverage on these health – how is that looking out and caring for your constituents?
- This bill allows insurers to increase costs if they have a health condition or become sick while insured – how is that beneficial to your constituents?
- As a result of the allowable premium and cost of care increases, at least half of your constituents will experience bankruptcy. Since its adoption of the Affordable Care Act, far fewer Americans have taken the extreme step of filing for personal bankruptcy. Filings have dropped about **50 percent**, from 1,536,799 in 2010 to 770,846 in 2016 (see [Data here](#)). Those years also represent the time frame when the ACA took effect. Is your state able to handle the expected rise in bankruptcy filings? Do you have your constituents’ best interest in mind?
- I live in a state that is almost bankrupt. How can I trust that they will manage the federal allotment appropriately? What regulations will be in place for all the states to guarantee good fiscal management
- Since the GOP bill will transfer most of the decision-making to the states, how will the insurance market handle people moving from state to state since the lack of uniform regulation will be gone?

If you vote “Yes”, we will know that you have put Party Before Person (American).

If you vote “Yes”, you are not representing the people.

If you vote “Yes”, we will remember how you ignored the majority of voices when we vote in 2018.

In the interest in the health of the people and the financial welfare of this country,
PLEASE VOTE NO!

Marcia Frank

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Damon Grimes [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Look, I have been told I'm not covered for a preexisting condition. If something went wrong, I was good I'd have to fund it myself or simply die.

I can't have that ever happen to my child... Or worse yet be told that my child has hit a lifetime cap & have to make that same call.

Fix Healthcare & make it stronger. Stop the disaster Graham Cassidy Amendment before you kill people or bankrupt them.

What if it was your kid or grandkid?

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brenda Chaffee-Pullman [mailto:pullman@chaffee.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

I am a Service Coordinator in low-income senior housing buildings. The cuts in Medicaid brought on by the Graham-Cassidy bill would negatively affect the Residents I serve.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jamie Hicks [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: McConnell, Senator (McConnell)
Subject: Do NOT pass Graham-Cassidy

I am asking you not to proceed with this bill. It does not provide adequate protections for those with pre-existing conditions.

It does not prevent lifetime caps.

It disproportionately penalizes women simply for being women.

It would decimate Medicaid which will leave many elderly and poor without healthcare when they desperately need it.

It would remove essential health benefits which keep Americans healthier and thus causes less health care costs.

This bill has the only goal to repeal the ACA. What you need to do is listen to Americans and stabilize the insurance markets which are unstable due to the governments inability to guarantee subsidy reimbursement. Fix what is wrong don't blow up the system. Our lives, literally, depend on it.

A concerned America

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shanah Stone <shanah.stone@congress.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect affordable health care for all Americans!

I am urging you to oppose against the Graham-Cassidy bill that would slash Medicaid and kick millions off insurance. It is frankly un American, cruel, and a partisan.

This IMMORAL bill includes:

Massive state funding cuts.

No full CBO score.

Premium hikes for preexisting conditions.

More uninsured veterans.

More uninsured children.

Key stake holders oppose.

GOP governors and our governor opposes.

It fails the McCain test.

It includes an age tax.

BAD, Not bipartisan, inhumane.

It doesn't leave people better off!

It hurts me and my family.

VOTE NO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Beth Kovanen [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Just say NO to Graham-Cassidy

As a pastor, as a person of faith, as a human being, I see the Graham-Cassidy Bill as cruel, destructive, and immoral. Why would you strip healthcare from millions of Americans? This bill is NOT the answer to our collective healthcare issues... and if it's admittedly not an answer, why would we even consider it?

I agree with the Rev. David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World:
"Cassidy-Graham is just as bad as the other health care bills that have been rejected by the Senate. It would end the Medicaid expansion and take health care coverage away from tens of millions of people. Of course, those Americans who have the greatest need for health care coverage – seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children – would be hit hardest by this legislation.

"Hunger and poverty rates have been declining, due in part to the expansion of health care coverage. This legislation would reverse the progress that has been made and increase hunger and poverty in the U.S. People without health insurance must often choose between paying for medicine and the health care they need, and putting food on the table.

"Senators should work together on a bipartisan bill that does not take away health insurance from tens of millions of the most vulnerable Americans."

Sincerely,
Pastor Mary Beth Kovanen
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Bustos <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect affordable health care for all Americans!

Please Reject this new bill! Millions will be without insurance and this bill will cause great suffering!
Cynthia Bustos

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carrie Miller [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: HEALTHCARE BILL

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.")

Carrie Miller

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brian Dunten [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I ask that the following statement be added to the record for the Senate Finance Committee Hearing regarding the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

Dear Senators:

Seventeen health organizations representing insurers, providers, doctors, seniors and the disabled have issued statements opposing Graham-Cassidy. Specifically, the AMA states they oppose it because it "violates the precept of 'first do no harm.'"

NPR and NYT have issued graphic representations that compare the ACA with previous iterations of repeal and replace and Graham-Cassidy.

The biggest losers are states that implemented the Medicaid expansion, and gives that money to states that balked at implementing the ACA. My home state of Indiana stands to lose \$2 Billion in funding.

32 Million people stand to lose their health insurance. This is unacceptable. America is the only country in the developed world where access to affordable healthcare is not a right.

NPR reported that the Koch brothers are essentially holding the Republican party hostage, cutting off funding unless and until those Senators and Representatives bow to their will.

If you have not read Graham-Cassidy, you must before you vote.

Graham-Cassidy allows insurers to charge people who become ill 5x premiums, and that is WITHOUT a lapse in coverage. The people most affected will be the elderly and disabled. The resulting number of personal bankruptcies will become an even bigger crisis, and the increase in the number of premature deaths something that should weigh on your conscience.

I believe that the Republican party leadership is acting grossly negligent by calling for a vote prior to receiving CBO analysis figures. They are trying to jam through a bill that will not only result in 32 million uninsured but also put the healthcare industry in turmoil, with the potential to greatly and adversely affect Wall Street.

I implore you to vote NO.

Sincerely,
Brian P. Dunten
Indianapolis, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]@insc.com
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't be shortsighted

Our family pays much more into the system than we get out of it. We are proud to do it when the money is well spent. Reasonable healthcare, helping pay for coverage for people with serious pre-existing conditions, etc. is money well spent and makes us happy. I predict if the current GC bill passes, the population will bifurcate and we will end up with Single Payer which I'm not sure would work so well in our country.

I don't want to pay for a stupid, ineffectual, offensive, vanity-project, border wall.

I don't want to pay for (wealthy) people who choose to live in a hurricane-prone area and elect politicians who don't understand science.

I don't want to pay for people who elect politicians that don't do city planning so people end up building in flood zones.

Healthcare- that's different. Nobody wants to get sick. Don't pass a junky plan.

Karen Rylander
55347

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarada Amani [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please do not vote for this evil bill. It is not a win for Repubs. It is a loss for America.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew Schauenburg [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

With all due insistence, maintain the ACA and do not consider it's repeal without a viable, single payer option.

Thank you

Matthew Schauenburg

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mardi Deluhery [redacted] <[redacted]@[redacted].com>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Cassidy - Graham

I am an Iowa voter and have a 37 year old daughter with Autism and Down Syndrome. She is very dependant on Medicaid. I am very concerned about proposals to drastically reduce Federal support of Medicaid and block granting bacteria to the state. Iowa privatized Medicaid in April 2016. Since then the insurance companies have continuously asked for more funding, reduced services to consumers and underpaid providers. At the same time our state is experiencing budget shortfalls. Block grants with no flexibility will only make this situation worse and citizens like my daughter will suffer.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 2/2

no "replacement" plan.

Why would you even consider this?

This is stupid, partisan politics at its worst.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 1/2

Do not approve the Cassidy bill. It's a travesty. Nobody knows what's really in it, there are no OMB numbers, and there is

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Campbell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill - Opinion from Sen. Ron Johnson's Constituent in St. Francis, WI 53235

Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill

From: Gail Campbell – St.Francis, WI – 53235 – Constituent of Sen. Johnson

I urge Sen. Johnson to stop any attempt, including Graham-Cassidy, that jeopardizes coverage and increases costs for older adults.

In Wisconsin, we already have a crisis-level shortage of home care workers for all insurances. If Graham-Cassidy passes, it will make our state a disaster of poor medical care for seniors with pre-existing conditions!

This Graham-Cassidy bill is personal with me. Senator Johnson knows this bill will sunset my cancer care, asthma meds and other essentials that keep me alive!

I've already told him in person at his Town Hall in Franklin, WI and by Fedexed letters. So he knows I'm a 69 year old cancer patient on Medicare & Long-Term Care Medicaid called FamilyCare.

Many seniors like me go into nursing homes, run out of life savings, and need to rely on long-term care Medicaid before we die. We have worked all our lives and we paid into the FICA tax system which is still in effect. It's purpose is to keep us alive with medical care after working all our lives.

This bill takes away cost-sharing subsidies to help with co-pays and deductibles. This means people like me will not have enough income to pay for medical care! I have explained all that to the Senator in detail by Fedexed letters with enclosed charts, medical files and financial information to prove this bill will be harmful to patients like me.

Our Republican Senate does not seem to grasp the level of harm they are trying to inflict on disabled seniors!

So any changes to health care must be done through an open, bipartisan and transparent process that protects older adults and preserves critical Medicaid funding with no cuts & caps.

Thank you, and please vote no to Graham-Cassidy! Do not harm your seniors!

Gail M. Campbell

[REDACTED] r
[REDACTED] #114
[REDACTED] #5325
[REDACTED] Medicaid

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Missy Feldman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:24 PM
To: gchcomments

To Whom it may concern

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 pre-existing conditions"), the National Institute for Reproductive Health ("the Graham-Cassidy bill preys on underserved communities ... a clear and present danger"), and Federation of American Hospitals ("It could disrupt access to health care for millions of the more than 70 million Americans") and do not allow this bill in its present form to pass the Senate.

Sincerely,

Melissa Feldman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not repeal Obamacare
Attachments: 20170901_110351_resized.jpg

My son had his first surgery when he was nine weeks old. His heart was missing the walls that separate the chambers, a condition known as AVSD. He has had cataract surgery, both eyes, retinal reattachment surgery, both eyes, and bilateral tympanoplasmy. Blue Cross pulled out of Tennessee and we have now insurance that is not as good at a higher price, but that is better than nothing. And nothing is what we will have if you pass the latest Trumpcare bill. My state will not take care of him, so do not say a block grant will provide for him. Gutting Medicaid as proposed will also hurt us as many school services are billed to Medicaid.

I would like to suggest that you take the needed funding out of the bloated military budget and spend it on Medicare for All program so that mothers like me do not lay awake at night worrying about our child's healthcare future. We have have enough to worry about.

Sincerely,

Tommi Stephenson
[REDACTED]

Powered by Cricket Wireless

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peri Goldberg <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Enough Already

Dear Senators,

Please stop already. It is appalling to me how Republican Senators are putting party before reason and trying to shove a bill through the Senate without proper debate, diligence, and research. The attempt to pass the Cassidy Graham healthcare bill is not in the best interest of this country, or your constituents, and it is definitely not the proper way to legislate. Please start making a bipartisan effort to come up with a solution that is in the majority's best interest. As it stands now this bill will hurt millions. Please do what is right, and stop being so afraid to work together as fellow politicians to legislate. This bill will only divide us further, and make bipartisanship harder. PLEASE VOTE NO!

Thank you for your consideration,

Peri Goldberg

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]@il.com
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

We all have a family member, friend or co-worker with a disability! What will happen to them if this bill is passed? How will I be effected? I'm afraid!!

I receive my health and behavioral services through Medicaid dollars under the current Affordable Care Act. If Medicaid dollars were turned into a block grant, those of us, which includes your family, friends and coworkers, would be even more vulnerable. Special programs we receive would be underfunded, underserved and with no qualified personnel to run them they would be dissolved. We need to move forward instead of backwards.

Our government is deleting a program, with nothing workable to replace it with. I feel you need to keep what works and fix what doesn't. Are you capable of that? **If our government continues to make this a race about which party can win the arm wrestle we all lose. What a tragedy for us as a people.**

Anita Warner
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Visit our Facebook page:
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Justin Berkobien [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: An Independent's objection to ACA repeal

I am an independent in my late 30s. I have voted for Republicans as well as Democrats consistently as an adult. I, and many like me, are not swayed by Partisan platform rhetoric but, rather, compelling proposals and logical policies.

It is my deduction, without bias or agenda, that the repeal of the affordable care act is a strictly Partisan gesture meant to pander to the furthest right-leaning citizens of our country. I do not deny that Obama care is flawed as I have experienced many of its flaws first hand but it is better, broadly speaking, than what we had before it. The Republican who embraces the ACA and pledges to improve it has a chance at winning my vote. The Republican who votes to repeal the ACA is a soulless panderer of a Demographic that is dwindling. Good luck.

Justin Berkobien
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joel Alfieri [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham- Cassidy

I do NOT want the Graham-Cassidy Health care bill to pass. Please fix the ACA instead of shoving this health care bill through. As a Senior , on a fixed income who is disabled, I consider this Genocide. This is disgraceful. Instead of building a Wall, getting us into a War, concentrate on providing single payer Health Insurance.

Sign me, Never voting Republican Again

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David J. Heslop [REDACTED] <>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Is Terrible Policy

Senators and members of the Committee:

In 2000, prior to ACA protections for consumers, my wife and I left the security of a terrific health insurance plan in Massachusetts to move to Arizona merely to be closer to aging parents. We assumed the very expensive COBRA insurance to make the transition.

I have well-managed ulcerative colitis. My spouse has had a melanoma removed more than a decade ago with NO recurrence. Each of us see a doctor once a year for a standard physical so we are very light healthcare users. However, in 2001 when we finally were able to secure health insurance with Cigna, my policy cost nearly \$16,000 annually (for basic care in an HMO); my wife's policy was \$12,000+. At that time the \$30,000 we paid annually was 25% of our salaries. Today we are nearing retirement and our incomes have been reduced significantly but thanks to consumer protections under the ACA, we can afford health insurance.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will return this country to a place where health insurance is unaffordable for millions of Americans, where insurance companies can freely deny coverage for any reason, where bankruptcy from excessive health costs hurt all Americans because of their toll on families and the economy; and exacerbate the health issues of the poor and those caught in addiction. Graham-Cassidy offers no protections for people with pre-existing conditions in spite of the claims by Senator Cassidy. It destroys Medicaid for millions of Americans who, today, have better health outcomes because of it and upon which millions of veterans rely.

This bill before your committee, coming before your committee in the manner it has with no evidence of its effect on a sixth of our economy, is simply criminally bad. Regardless of what you WANT to believe, the ACA is working for millions of Americans like my wife and I. You must reject the Graham-Cassidy replacement.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
David Heslop

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nandini Kuehn [REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please consider seriously why every major health care organization has come out and opposed this Bill even those (such as health insurance plans) who are unfettered by this Bill from ACA requirements. Not only will you throw off 250K Medicaid expansion folk in NM off coverage, every rural provider who depends on Medicaid will be at risk for survival. Every hospital in NM had dropped their uncompensated care and bad debt to minimal levels. Why does every idea that comes out of the Republican party throw people in jeopardy? Why is this idea polling in the mid-teens? Who are these voters you are so committed to? Or are we talking donors?

Finally please report publicly whether these provisions will affect the honorable members of the U.S. Congress

Nandini Kuehn
Health Services Consulting
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon Motorola Smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CHERYL TERHORST [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I beg you, please vote against this bill

To all concerned:

There is no question the ACA can be improved -- its founders all built it based on that knowledge and indeed improvements have been made since it went into effect.. But the Graham-Cassidy bill is not the answer, and in fact is the opposite. Please consider the people in this country and just how much it would hurt so many of us. As the American Medical Association (AMA) notes, this bill violates the Hippocratic oath. It in fact would do harm.

I beg of you, please don't vote for this bill. Please work together, both sides of the isle, to make healthcare better. Be a good example for the country, instead of further dividing it. We need healing and we look to you, our elected officials, to guide the way. Please be the leaders we need and want.

Many thanks,

Cheryl terHorst

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynne Robinson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal and Replace

Dear Honorable Congressmen and Congresswomen:

I am writing to encourage each of you to vote against the Cassidy-Graham Bill that is under consideration and will soon be called for a vote on or before September 30, 2017.

I am a 61 year-old female that was diagnosed 5 years ago with diabetes; therefore, I have "pre-existing" health issues. Under the C-G Bill, I would pay exorbitant premiums and be punished because I have a disease which I did not ask for nor could I prevent from occurring. In spite of what many people believe, it does not just strike obese people; I weigh 115 pounds. I did nothing to cause this unfortunate life-changing event in my life.

If you have or know someone with diabetes, you are familiar with the expense of this illness, even with insurance. It is a costly monthly endeavor and takes a toll on a middle-income budget. With C-G Bill these expenses will only escalate. We live on a fixed income, therefore, the cost will, over time, increase and take more money from our monthly budget.

Please vote against this horrific proposed bill and instead work together AS ADULTS in a bipartisan fashion to improve the current ACA Bill that has provided medical benefits to Americans that previously did not have them. Represent ALL Americans, not just the 1% that will receive large tax incentives if this horrific bill is enacted.

We are voters and we are paying attention to the actions of our Congresspeople. Do the right thing for ALL of your constituents. This country would not exist without those of us that built it---the middle class.

Thank you,

Lynne Robinson

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marcy Rockwell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My son was born with a hole in his heart and 4 months later was diagnosed with Stage 3 neuroblastoma, a solid tumor cancer. Protections for pre-existing conditions and guaranteed no lifetime caps are vital to his healthcare, which would bankrupt us otherwise (if we could even get care for him under Graham-Cassidy). Stand up and vote NO on this bill for my son and all the kids like him.

Marsheila Rockwell
[REDACTED]

Sent from Marcy's silly iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Danker [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop Graham/Cassidy Bill

This is a mess!! Why can you not look at models in other countries? Look at a solution instead of passing another inadequate bill that helps nobody.

Janet Dankert
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dianne Berlin [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I don't understand why you Republicans are trying to keep us poor, keep us uneducated, and most of all, trying to kill us!
This bill will be a disaster for America and all of its people. It must not pass!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lucia Fedora [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote NO the Graham-Cassidy Bill

You will destabilize our insurance, possibly premiums are raised so high that I and my family couldn't afford it, or make it unavailable to us. We can't go without a good affordable healthcare plan and care.

Thank you,
Lucia Fedora

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Klink [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't take away my health insurance!

I was involved in a serious car accident six years ago, which resulted in over \$250,000 in medical bills. I have great health insurance as a result of the ACA, which made my out-of-pocket expenses manageable. Now I have pre-existing conditions, and I'm terrified that the Graham-Cassidy bill will allow my insurance company to jack up my premium beyond my ability to pay. PLEASE restore the bipartisan committee working to improve the ACA instead of repealing it.

Thank you,
Lisa Klink

--

Adopt your new best friend from [Much Love Animal Rescue!](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Kaye [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass the Graham Cassidy bill

It will take away many things. 32 million people will become insured. Blue cross says it will undermine preexisting conditions and mental health funding! No funding will be given to planned parenthood. Premiums and deductibles would rise. It will cause uncertainty in the market place. It is morally wrong! Older adults and those with health conditions will be paying more. We need Medicare for all!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! joyce kaye

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elina Patler [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill.

Hello,

I'm writing with extreme concern about the Cassidy–Graham bill that is being considered by the Senate. It must not be passed because it's a terrible detriment to millions of families. It's also a procedural miscarriage to allow this bill to come to a vote before it has been thoroughly vetted and scored by the CBO for public scrutiny.

There is no doubt that health care in this country needs improvement, but this bill would only serve to make things worse.

Thank you,
Elina Patler

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Storey [redacted]@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

To the committee,

I'm including below comments written and submitted by my sister, who, alongside her husband and their daughter, has found strength and fortitude to withstand challenges I would not wish upon any one of you, no matter how vehemently I may disagree with your politics. Her point of view is my own.

Please do not use your positions of power in this country to harm its citizens. If you vote yes, you will harm all of us, and those who are most vulnerable most of all. To do so just so you can keep a shallow, craven, bad-faith political promise would demonstrate a lack of basic humanity. You owe it to your fellow citizens to be better than that.

A very concerned citizen, sister and aunt,
Sarah Storey

September 21, 2017

To the Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I write to you as the parent of a 14-year old daughter with Aicardi Syndrome, a very rare genetic disorder that causes unrelenting seizures, significant intellectual and physical disabilities, and early mortality. She began having seizures at 3 months of age. She does not walk, nor talk, but she is deeply engaged with her world, her school, her family.

She is the light of my and my husband's life, and she is the reason that I am a committed parent advocate for the interests of all children in our country who have medical complexity or disability.

In your hands rests the most important decision for children like my daughter, but also for people with disabilities in all circumstances: whether or not to vote for the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

I write to ask you to oppose this bill, but not because I believe that the Affordable Care Act is perfect. Far from it—I believe that the ACA can, and should, be reformed and improved upon if people of good will and conscience come together to work sincerely to do so.

I ask you to oppose this bill because it will decimate Medicaid, the single most important health insurance program for children and adults with disabilities in our country.

I ask you to oppose the bill because it will also threaten the health insurance stability—and access to critical care and supports—of all people with chronic illness and disability who currently have private insurance.

Because the ACA requires that—no matter what pre-existing condition our children have—they have access to health insurance, our families do not face the impossible financial burdens that their medical bills would otherwise cause. Should the states be left with the option to be waived—or to waive insurers—from this requirement, many of our children and their families would be faced with terrible choices and outcomes.

The ACA and a stable Medicaid system have given my family and the families I know peace of mind—release from the constant anxiety about whether the next procedure, or the next piece of equipment, or the next critical therapy, will be accessible to our beautiful, loved children (whether little ones, or adults). Instead of managing this worry, we can concentrate on our children and their well-being.

Across the country, Medicaid keeps children with profound disabilities in their homes, with their families, rather than in nursing homes. It allows parents to maintain their employment and contribute to society because our children are able to receive the supports they need for healthy home and school care. It offers important secondary insurance to fill the gaps left by inadequate private insurance.

In my state of Illinois, the projections suggest that in 2020, we are looking at an 11 percent cut to Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals and other medical providers; by 2030, that number is 34 percent. Such cuts would be simply devastating to the free-standing children's hospital where my medically-complex child gets all of her specialist and primary care: neurologists, neurosurgeons, gastroenterologists, orthopedists, ophthalmologists, and therapists.

Fully 50 percent of our hospital's patient population relies on Medicaid, and thus, the hospital's ability to provide care for ALL children is directly linked to a robust, healthy system of Medicaid for our most vulnerable children.

The Graham-Cassidy plan to "equalize" Medicaid funding across the states who wisely expanded it under the ACA, and those who cruelly prevented their citizens from getting those benefits is really just stealing from Peter to pay Paul—and we know that this is a terrible way to invest in anything that is meaningful. For governors who refused to participate under the ACA to now take that funding out of the hand of children in another state under the name of "repeal" is cynical in the extreme.

It is nothing more than a political shell game, and our children's lives are worth more than that.

There is work to do to make the ACA better, to make insurance and pharmaceuticals more affordable, to improve the efficiency of our systems. But this does not require us to act inhumanely, or to fly in the face of what we know to be the honest, good gains of the ACA.

My daughter may not be your constituent, but today, all Americans are your constituents.

Please, think long and hard about what a vote to repeal the ACA and to block-grant and reduce Medicaid would mean for the most vulnerable of your fellow citizens and their families.

I urge you to imagine the greatest good that could be achieved here instead if you put people first, and ideology and foolhardy campaign promises to the side.

I ask you to reflect on the simple question, "What if this was my child?" and then vote "No" on the Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,
Margaret Storey
Evanston, Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kellie Pokrifka [mailto:kpokrifka@ing.com] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

I would first like to thank you for doing your best to protect the greatest country in the world.

Second, I would like to beg you to consider Americans with traumatic brain injury. TBI knows no demographics- no incomes, no ages, no gender, no politics. Imagine having you or a loved one thriving in life, and then one day being so debilitated by a freak accident. Even those with the best insurance coverage and a high income will be economically and emotionally devastated by the enormous costs of a brain injury.

I was 19 years old when a TBI took my life, my future. I was at one of the top universities in America, and had plans to be a doctor. Never once had I considered I would be on this side of healthcare. I was set. In my third year of university, a fever had me faint on a hardwood floor. I still have not been able to work, or to even live as a functioning human. The costs of health care are almost as debilitating as my injury.

The Graham- Cassidy Bill would make patients like me- innocent, successful, intelligent teenagers- even more devastated by brain injury. Please think of your own loved ones and vote no.

Thank you for your time and efforts,

Kellie

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Vogel [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I think this is the worst proposal yet. Millions will go without insurance. I am against it. Shame on the senate for proposing something this awful then trying to railroad it through.

Sincerely,
Mary Vogel
Bloomington, Illinois
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Weber <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: say NO to new healthcare billr

I am writing to you today to ask you to vote against the Cassidy-Graham proposal, and any future proposal that cuts Medicaid and puts the lives and livelihoods of people with disabilities in danger.

Iowans with disabilities rely on Medicaid-funded services to live and work in our communities, and this new proposal would have a huge impact on Iowa's ability to maintain these vital Medicaid services.

I am case manager who works with people with disabilities. My consumers depend on Medicaid services to live, work, and be a part of my community. Any cuts to Medicaid threaten their independence. I am a person with pre-existing conditions who deserves the right to access adequate healthcare services without facing a financial punishment. My ability to live and work in my community will be threatened if this bill were to pass.

Please oppose this dangerous bill, and make sure any new health plan maintains or improves patient protections and Medicaid funding. Thank you very much for considering my comments.

--
Lisa Weber, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED]
C [REDACTED]

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The information provided in this e-mail message, along with any attachments, may be privileged, confidential, and covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, U.S. CC. 2510-2521 as well as other State and Federal laws. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact me at the above phone number or e-mail address immediately. If the reader of this e-mail is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that distribution, retention, dissemination, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally Fuller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

September 21, 2017

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I write to voice our extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy- Heller-Johnson proposal. I am very discouraged that instead of continuing down a bipartisan path and working on issues to improve the strength and stability of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) marketplaces, the sponsors of this legislation have put forward a proposal that will:

- Eliminate the financial assistance that helps low- and moderate-income families purchase health care coverage;
- End expanded Medicaid coverage that helps millions of low-income adults;
- Gut Medicaid through deep, permanent cuts that would grow over time and threaten care for millions of low-income seniors, children, and people living with disabilities and shift massive costs and risks to states;
- Jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths
- Undermine essential protections for people with pre-existing conditions;
- Resurrect - and worsen - the devastating cuts in coverage and benefits that the American public and the majority of Congress have already rejected.

The Graham-Cassidy- Heller-Johnson proposal threatens the health and financial security of millions of Americans including older adults, low-and moderate-income families, people living with disabilities, veterans and people with preexisting conditions. It does nothing to improve affordability or availability of coverage for consumers and will likely result in approximately 665,000 Massachusetts residents losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: amy bramlette [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE; vote on repeal of ACA

I have seen first hand the difference healthcare has made in the lives of people in KY. Why would you want to make it harder again? Please- do not pass this bill. Healthy citizens mean a better country. Do you not want that?

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO NO NO on the Cassidy Graham bill

NO NO NO on the Cassidy Graham bill. It will cost our country much too much and I am not referring to dollars.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Valerie Mellow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill (Please do NOT pass!)

Dear Senators and Committee members,

I am writing to request that you do NOT pass the Graham Cassidy bill! This bill has far reaching implications that it appears no one is looking at long-term. It will not only impact those who rely on government dollars for health care, but it will impact all of us tax payers.

I recently took a job where I work with individuals who have an intellectual and developmental disability and their families/caregivers. This bill will critically compromise very needed medical safety nets and programs in order to have any quality of life for an individual with this very 'pre-existing' condition that will require supports. It will cause additional stressors and anxiety which then turns into more medical costs and more ER visits. I'd love to poll our nation's ER data to see just how many more have come through their doors since this legislation was made public!

I've worked since I was 15 years old and now 55. I'm a cancer survivor who developed type II diabetes after the chemo treatments. I do not mind paying for health insurance, but I spent many healthy years paying into health insurance and taxes to help those who need our help in getting medical services so that when I need them they'll be there.

I'm all for having a better health care system, but to gut something without any 'cause and effect' analysis being done or considerations of caps on the medical industry is gross negligence on the part of decision makers.

Please do NOT pass this bill, table it, reconstruct it again (pre-existing conditions impacts everyone, not just those depending on government assistance to survive!) Will you please get recommendations from economists as well as other 'professional' expertise before passing another health care reform bill?

--
Valerie Mellow, Policy Coordinator

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William O'Donnell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My comments on the Graham Cassidy healthcare legislation

Dear Senate committee members,

I urge you to put politics aside when reading this message.

I like many others do not find the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill a positive step in the direction we need to go as a nation in reforming and updating our healthcare system to be in line with the rest of the developing world that's light years ahead of the United States. I come from a large family where there are multiple members including myself who have chronic lifelong disabling conditions. Many in our family rely on programs like Medicaid that afford treatment options, adaptive equipment, and other community based services to us that would normally not be available. I am in total agreement that, healthcare needs to be fixed. However, there has to be a better solution than cutting off some of the nations most vulnerable citizens from accessing healthcare and other community based services. We need you as a community, (20% or 1/5) of the population to continue being our ally and strengthening opportunity to healthcare access and other related services. Other related services like, the disability integration act, and community first choice program cost savings steps in a positive direction including continued availability of programs like Medicaid. Thanks for reading and I look forward to you making a decision that is both morally and economically in the best interest of one of the largest minorities in America, persons with disabilities.

;

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Jo Walters [redacted] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save Medicare/Medicaid

Finally people have coverage, why take that away?

Finally, people with disabilities can get their medicines, doctor's visits, why take that away?

Finally, mental health coverage occurs, its not perfect by any means, there are long waits and great distances to get to a provider at least where I live, but any cuts in Medicaid will start a loss in service. We need to visit doctors and counselors for our care.

Please vote no on the current repeal on the table.

Many Thanks,

Mary Jo Walters

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott Levy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A.C.A. Stories

Hello,

I have a mentally ill brother who, despite having a P.H.D., has found his issues to be too debilitating to maintain employment (he has tried this for many years). He is on numerous life saving medications, and depends upon the A.C.A. to maintain his health. Graham Cassidy would destroy him.

I suffer from chronic pain issues. I have worked my entire adult life, but in this economy, I am unable to find employment that provides benefits. The A.C.A. allows me my best shot at having a degree of quality of life.

Please do not allow this bill to pass. Please put the health and well being of your fellow Americans above politics.

Thank you.

Scott Levy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Schultz, Linda <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: lindaschultz1@charter.net
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Linda Schultz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Please oppose cuts to Medicaid via the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. For the sake of my son, John Lacy, and others like him, disabled from birth. John turns 36 this year. He has had the help of Medicaid since he was 18 years old. Without Medicaid, John, who has moderate effects from Down Syndrome and Juvenile Diabetes, would not have opportunities such as, the employment he had at The Threshold Incorporated, a sheltered workshop, for 14 yrs. Or currently, in what he calls, "retirement," at his Day Service provider, The Golden Pearl LLC. He loves the 6 hour day service program. There he enjoys social time, outings, and learning daily living skills, while having his diabetes monitored and insulin administered. This would be too small of a world for you and I, for us, but for John, it is everything.

I don't know where we would be without Medicaid. If left to the State to allocate funds, John and so many others like him will not be served. Will not have his health needs addressed. Will not live meaningful lives. Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. Help be the voice of the disabled. They have so little voice. It is too unheard.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Nyman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I'm a foster mom with three foster kids on Medicaid. I also do not receive health insurance from my employer and rely on the ACA for my healthcare.

I am not an insurance expert. But when a far-reaching bill is crafted in secret, if it's not open to debate, if it's not given time to be properly analyzed, and when so many organizations like AARP and the AMA as well as the insurance industry itself come out against a bill like this one, I have to ask myself, why would the GOP insist on pushing this through?

Certainly not for the good of the American people. Please don't tell us that. It's a lie. The GOP knows it, I know it, we all know it.

It's because the GOP foolishly campaigned on a promise to repeal and replace. Instead of "making healthcare great again," they campaigned on repealing and replacing. To us "regular folk," that's like telling a kid if they don't behave, they'll be grounded for an entire year and then having to ground them for an entire year. It's a stupid threat, like the GOP campaign promise was a stupid promise.

Here's the thing: we don't care what promises were made during the campaign. We care about healthcare. We don't want it politicized. We want it to be affordable.

We want it to be affordable for everyone. We want it to be affordable to everyone and available to everyone.

This bill does not do that.

And so I beg of you: please find your humanity. Please find your conscience. Lift your heads up out of your partisan politics, listen to your constituents, to the medical community, to the organizations you'll be greatly and negatively impacting. Stop this insanity!

Grow up.
Do better.
Be kind.
Be leaders.

We, the American People, want you to do better than this bill. We want you to work with Dems to make the ACA better. We want you to stop thinking of yourselves and your party and to start thinking of us, your fellow countrymen and countrywomen.

Do better.

Sincerely,
Nancy Nyman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vickie Moseley <vickiemoseley@springfield.il.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony against passage of the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill

My name is Vickie Moseley. I live in Springfield, Illinois. I am the mother of 6 children and my husband and I have lived without health insurance. In fact, two of our children were born when we had no insurance and footed the entire bill by ourselves. One of those children was unfortunate enough to be born with a tiny hole in his heart. This is, I was told at the time, quite common and in most children the hole closes before their six-month check up. Luckily his did as well. However, because it was extensively documented at the hospital, this became a pre-existing condition for our son and thus blocked him from obtaining health insurance in the private marketplace. Of our six children, one had tubes in his ears at 9 months, another was born with an agenesis of the corpus collosum, one was born with autism -- in short, all but one of them had pre-existing conditions that precluded private insurance. That is why I fought for access to affordable healthcare 24 years ago. That is why I stand here to continue to fight for it today.

If there are problems with the ACA, I will fight just as hard to fix those problems. If the premiums are too high for many, we need to find ways to bring them down. If there isn't enough competition in the marketplace, we need to find new incentives. But going back to the way things were should not be on the table.

The son who was born with a hole in his heart is a productive member of society today. And for the last 4 years, he has been able to stay on my insurance, unlike his older brother, who was uninsured for a year while waiting to go into the Marine Corps after high school (he is a disabled veteran of the Iraq War). I am open to alternatives, but we need to see those alternatives, with Congressional Budget Office scoring and bipartisan support, before we take away something so many people need.

Thank you.

Introduction: Vickie Moseley, former State Representative for Springfield, co-sponsor of legislation to study access to affordable healthcare in 1993. A lifelong resident of Illinois, she and her husband Brian have lived in Springfield for almost 40 years.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kit WC <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH "health care" bill

The GCH repeal of Obamacare is a travesty that doesn't deserve to be called a health care bill. Why? Because the authors have done no work to ensure it improves the American health care system - no consulting with doctors or public health experts, no discussions of the impacts of an aging population or how climate change will affect infectious disease rates in the coming decades, no input from hospitals, insurance companies, or state exchanges. If this bill somehow miraculously did make health care better, it would be an accident. It is clear that the ONLY goal of this bill is to provide tax breaks for the wealthy and appease large Republican donors. We see what you are doing and we will remember.

Kit Ward-Crowell

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Monica Palacios [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Plan

PLEASE

NO ON Graham-Cassidy Plan.

EVERY AMERICAN NEEDS HEALTHCARE

Thank you,
Monica Palacios

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: terri_l.n <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No Cassidy Graham bill

My name is, Terri Norgren I am a mother and a guardian of a young lady who has multiple disabilities. She has been on Medicaid most of her life. Without the supports from Medicaid, and Medicare my daughter would not be alive. Medicaid is more than just health care, it is the Medicaid waivers which also allows her to be able to have the support she needs so that I can continue to work and put a roof over my daughters head.

The Affordable Care Act may not be perfect but it gives her the chance to have a life. if this bill passes it will rip her support and her world away. Giving that much money to states that do not show fiscal responsibility is giving a death sentence to not only my daughter but the thousands and millions of people in the state of Kansas. This bill is trying to do the great Kansas experiment which has failed miserably. hospitals in Kansas people are waiting for services and are dying trying to get the help that they need. Rural . hospitals are closing schools are closing school nurse programs are not there because of the fiscal irresponsibility of the Kansas administration.

I urge and beg you to vote NO on this Cassidy Graham Bell it will destroy the lives of the veterans the elderly and the most needy citizens in the United States.

thank you for listening

Sincerely
Terri Norgren

[REDACTED] e.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Graham-Cassidy bill

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: September 21, 2017 at 1:57:16 PM CDT
To: gchcomments@finance.state.gov
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Good afternoon.

A very short story re the ACA.

My son is affected by the opioid crisis. He is in recovery from a heroin addiction.

He has a subsidized silver policy through the Marketplace. We utilized the call center in order to be sure we were completing his application correctly. He has had a policy since the second year of the ACA.

The policy helped us provide him with two stints in rehab-30 days in patient and 21 days out patient. We paid out of pocket for more inpatient days.

It takes a while to come clean from heroin. The pull is great and the person really needs to want it. What I'm here to tell you is that he most likely wouldn't be alive today without the ACA with its requirement to cover addiction therapy.

Graham-Cassidy is a miserable, cruel piece of legislation which will hurt many. Do healthcare right-bi partisan, in committee, regular order.

Do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Linda Lee
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Elliott-Amadon [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal Bill

On Our Own of Montgomery County and our members are adamantly opposed to the repeal of the ACA. Most of our members have pre-existing conditions and receive mental health and other health care through Medicaid. The bill to repeal the ACA will reportedly eliminate coverage for pre-existing conditions, eliminate coverage for mental illnesses, and eliminate Medicaid as a resource for our low income and very low income members. Please do everything possible to save the ACA. Don't desert our members!

Cindy Elliott-Amadon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrew Jones <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement on Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern,

I urge the members of the Senate Finance Committee to let common sense prevail by voting NO on the Graham-Cassidy 'health care' bill that is currently being considered. The substance of the bill is an abomination and the process by which Republican members of the Senate are attempting to pass it is an outrageous affront to the democratic process.

Senate Republicans' desperate need to pass literally anything, even in the absence of a full score from the CBO, is both dangerous and absurd given the sky-high stakes associated with ripping healthcare away from millions of Americans. Groups as diverse as patient advocacy organizations, insurance lobbyists, and Republican governors know this bill does more harm than good, which should be a signal that this bill is nothing more than a cynical and dangerous attempt to play politics with Americans' lives. Again, please do not pass this abomination - the Senate would be much better off working on a bipartisan effort to fund and continue the

- Andrew Jones

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jordan Schmidt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill
Attachments: image1.jpeg; ATT00001.txt

Hello,

I'm writing with extreme concern about the Cassidy–Graham bill that is being considered by the Senate. It must not be passed because it's a terrible detriment to millions of families. It's also a procedural miscarriage to allow this bill to come to a vote before it has been thoroughly vetted and scored by the CBO for public scrutiny.

There is no doubt that health care in this country needs improvement, but this bill would only serve to make things worse.

Thank you.
Leah Alsadi

I'm attaching a picture of my son. His name is Gunner. He is 2. He would be greatly affected.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Moira Donegan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Stop trying to take our healthcare away. Defeat this bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Karen Stumbo [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To All US Senators regarding the proposed Graham-Cassidy legislation:

I am truly sickened that the people who wield such power in this country think so little of their fellow Americans. This Bill is wrong on so many levels, and each of you knows this. Allowing President Trump to say he made good on a campaign promise is not a good enough reason to forsake the rest of us. The Bill will be catastrophic to those who need access to healthcare the most. I can't imagine that any of you, in good conscience, can say honestly you believe the legislation is an improvement to the ACA, which I agree needs improving.

Please consider a bi-partisan approach to this issue as it is critical to ALL AMERICANS, not just Republicans, not just men (even though Republican men were the only ones who made the decisions about the contents of the Bill). ALL OF US will be affected.

As someone who has advocated for autistic people, the elderly and the most vulnerable of our citizens, and someone with pre-existing conditions myself, I beg of you to put the best interests of American citizens over your Party. If ever there was a time in your lives as public servants to really serve your public, it's now, and we and the rest of the world are watching.

Sincerely,
Mary Karen Stumbo
Kentucky

Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse typos & brevity

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Campbell [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SFC Hearing on Monday, September 25, 2017

Good afternoon,

I am 50 years old and have worked since I was 14. I was born with an artificial leg and other problems have stemmed from that. My son was born with Down Syndrome and is in remission from Leukemia. We are a family of pre-existing conditions. We are productive members of society and we have a right to good and reasonable healthcare. I fear for my son's future if Medicaid is done away with. Please do not vote in favor of this bill. The ACA is flawed, but it should be fixed and not completely obliterated. I am a firm believer in taking care of my fellow citizen and this bill will destroy lives. Please reconsider this and look for an improved program that will work for all.

Thank you
Nancy Campbell
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Carroll [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Repeal

The Graham-Cassidy repeal is unfathomably cruel. It is also unthinkable that our elected representatives would vote on such a bill when they have no idea about the true impacts of how many people would lose coverage. This is NOT an informed decision and the ramifications are too large to take such an action when your constituents do not have full knowledge of its impacts.

STOP BEING COWARDLY. This is a death bill and nothing more. Stop punishing people for being mortal. Being sick is not immoral, it is human.

Thank you for considering this in greater detail.

Regards,

Emily Carroll

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid Vital for My Family-Wisconsin
Attachments: Matt Story.pdf

Thank you for allowing comments about the new health care bill that will make sweeping changes to medicaid and the provisions for insurance across the US. I am concerned about the cuts to medicaid and the ability for states to waiver pre-existing conditions and treatment for mental health disorders. I have attached my son's story about how he has used medicaid since he was a little boy. Please share with the committee.

Thank you,
Sally Flaschberger

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: vallancet [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Senators: Vote no on Cassidy-Graham. As a practicing registered nurse, and a spouse and patient with pre-existing conditions, I am worried that this legislation will be dangerous to my patients and my family. It would convert Medicaid to block grants (per capita funds), which would lead to rationing of care. It breaks a promise the federal government made to provide health care to our most vulnerable citizens, including the elderly, children, the poor, and the disabled.

It has a provision that would allow states to opt out of covering essential health benefits. You know, things like inpatient care, outpatient care, labs, meds, maternity, and mental health care. It would allow insurers to sell bare bones plans that don't cover anything useful, which is shortsighted in that will not improve individual and population health, and will put vulnerable American families at risk of financial ruin due to health care expenses.

It is irresponsible to make sweeping changes to Medicaid without hearings and without stakeholder input. It is irresponsible to vote on this bill without a CBO score.

Tammy Vallance RN

Sent from my Verizon. Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chloe PDA <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect affordable health care for all Americans!

Dam the torpedo's, full steam ahead no matter what the consequences are for the people and their healthcare. As a 30 year Navy veteran I'm concerned that we will loose our guaranteed healthcare, known as Tri-Care for life. I'm also concerned that pre-existing conditions, while supposedly covered will be so expensive that you are priced out of the market.

You are leaving all of this to the states; and some states will do all they can for their people, such as California, New York, Massachusetts; but God help you if you live in Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, or Texas. To put it bluntly, in those states if you get sick you are on your own, if you have a catastrophic illness the only answer is to die quickly otherwise you will bankrupt your family.

All of this to give the 1% a tax break, typical Republican mantra, WE ARE FOR THE WEALTHY SCREW THE LITTLE GUY. As an example the Graham/Cassidy bill would defund Medicare in 2026, never to be seen again

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary McHale <mary.mchale@state.tx.us>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on Graham Cassidy bill

I am urging the Senate to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill as this bill would have a devastating impact on my son and our family. My son has a disability and relies on Medicaid for funding for Medicaid services such as employment supports(which includes finding a job, job coaching and transportation to and from a job). Without those supports, either my husband or I will need to quit our job to provide those needed services to our son, along with sitting at home with him. These services allow our son to be a contributing member to society. He will spend his days sitting at home, which will causes his skills(communication and others) to erode. This proposed bill would also allow states to waive protections for anyone with a pre-existing condition, which would mean that Daniel would not have any health insurance as he has a congenital heart condition, is deaf in one ear and wears a hearing aid in the other ear, has hypothyroidism, among other health issues. This would mean that he would not be able to pay for his medicines, see the doctor for checkups and ultimately his health would be so impaired that it would mean a trip to the ER, hospitalization, therapy, etc. Is that what the Senate wants—to have those individuals who are least able to take care of themselves- not be taken care of at all? Any cuts to Medicaid, whether it is through block grants, caps on Medicaid, no pre-existing conditions will mean that all we have worked with our school district to make sure that Daniel is equipped to work competitively will be for nothing as there will not be any Medicaid supports for him.

Thank you,

Mary P McHale

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Rudolph [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid

My son is blind and mentally retarded. He depends on Medicaid for his very life. Please do not let your zeal for health care reform be used as a toll to gut Medicaid.

I am also the Director of a non profit who serves over 350 individuals. Their story is just like my son's.

Please stop! Focus on fraud in the Medicaid system first.

Mark Rudolph,
K [REDACTED]
2015 Windish Drive
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

THIS COMMUNICATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHOM IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW.

If the reader of the communication is not the intended recipient or the employee or agency responsible for delivering the communication to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone (309-344-2600) and delete this e-mail from your computer. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Benjamin G Levy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Reform

To whom it may concern (yes, you people elected to represent me):

I do not want any modifications to the current healthcare legislation called Obamacare until you actually have a plan that will do at least what it does or better. It seems simple to comprehend that pre-existing conditions happen and that not everyone will share the same opinions about what should be covered, but ALL AMERICANS deserve decent and comprehensive health care. The current legislation proposed clearly does not do that.

I urge you to act like decent people and come to an agreement that represents all of our citizens and provides the comprehensive care that Americans deserve.

This bill does not do that and I urge it be tossed onto the scrap heap of so many others just like it.

You can and must do better.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Levy

[REDACTED]
Benjamin G. Levy - Solutions Consulting, Los Angeles
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Apple Certified Technical Specialist
Apple [REDACTED] Consultant

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maria Turner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please enter my comments into the official hearing records

Importance: High

Dear Senator:

Seventeen health organizations representing insurers, providers, doctors, seniors and the disabled have issued statements opposing Graham-Cassidy. Specifically, the AMA states they oppose it because it "violates the precept of 'first do no harm.'"

NPR and NYT have issued graphic representations that compare the ACA with previous iterations of repeal and replace and Graham-Cassidy.

The biggest losers are states that implemented the Medicaid expansion, and gives that money to states that balked at implementing the ACA. Indiana stands to lose \$2 Billion in funding.

32 Million people stand to lose their health insurance. This is unacceptable. America is the only country in the developed world where access to affordable healthcare is not a right.

NPR reported that the Koch brothers are holding the Republican party hostage, cutting off funding until you do their bidding. That two individuals have that much power is disturbing to say the least. A topic for a different day.

If you have not read Graham-Cassidy, you must before you vote. The Republican party is grossly negligent, irresponsible, calling a vote prior to receiving CBO analysis figures, trying to jam through a bill that will not only result in 32 million uninsured but also put the healthcare industry in turmoil, with the potential to greatly and adversely affect Wall Street.

Graham-Cassidy allows insurers to charge people who become ill 5x premiums, and that is WITHOUT a lapse in coverage. The populations most affected will be the elderly and disabled. The resulting number of personal bankruptcies will become an even bigger crisis, and the increase in the number of premature deaths something that should weigh on your conscience.

I implore you to vote NO.

Sincerely,

Maria Turner
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 37
[REDACTED] 51

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments of opposition and concern to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson health care proposal. This legislation would have extremely detrimental impacts on millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents. As a public health professional and voter, I am hopeful this legislation will not move forward.

Sincerely,

Kathy Myers

W [REDACTED] 01886

ii[1] Center for American Progress, “Coverage Losses by State Under the Graham-Cassidy Bill to Repeal the ACA”, <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/healthcare/news/2017/09/20/439277/coverage-losses-state-graham-cassidy-bill-repeal-aca/>.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shawn Tansey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Nikki_Hunt@markey.senate.gov
Subject: I'm opposed to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson health care proposal

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

As a voter, public health professional and SHIP counselor to seniors and people living with disabilities, I am extremely opposed to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. I find it very discouraging that instead of working together in a bipartisan way and focusing on issues to improve the strength and stability of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) marketplaces, the sponsors of this legislation have put forward a proposal that will negatively affect my family members and SHIP clients in the following ways:

- Eliminate the financial assistance that helps low- and moderate-income families purchase health care coverage;
- End expanded Medicaid coverage that helps millions of low-income adults;
- Gut Medicaid through deep, permanent cuts that would grow over time and threaten care for millions of families like men who have low-income seniors, children, and people living with disabilities and shift massive costs and risks to states;
- Jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken efforts in Massachusetts and elsewhere to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths
- Undermine essential protections for people with pre-existing conditions;
- Resurrect - *and worsen* - the devastating cuts in coverage and benefits that the American public and the majority of Congress have already rejected.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal threatens the health and financial security of millions of Americans including my family members who include adults aged sixty and older, low-and moderate-income families, people living with disabilities, veterans and family members and other people with preexisting conditions. It does nothing to improve affordability or availability of coverage for consumers and will likely result in approximately 665,000 Massachusetts residents losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.i[1]

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: mary moody <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please consider my letter to be read to those that need to hear it.

I have two sons with autism and ADHD. This bill will give our insurance company the power to raise our premiums, which are already very high, to something we cannot afford. My oldest is struggling the most. He's very smart but the autism is also compounded by ADHD. He needs more help than we can provide mentally and emotionally and we have begun looking into child psychiatrists in hopes that a combination of therapy and medicinal treatments will work. He is supposed to go into high school next year but I have decided to hold him back because he isn't mature enough to excel nor has his brain given him a moments peace so it can absorb the information his teachers are trying to teach him. His mind is a whirlwind with his thoughts traveling a hundred miles per hour. If you've ever wondered what goes on in the minds of autistic children afflicted with ADHD, it's like this. You go from hearing about their day at school and somewhere in their accounts of the day, you experience many "SQUIRRELS" (Taken from the movie 'UP'.) moments before they finish their stories. My sons are like this in school as well. They can't sit still at all. They're constantly talking, moving around and disrupting the class. Some people tell me it's because I don't discipline them enough but those people had normal children. How do they know what is a fitting discipline for something they cannot control? How do you discipline a child with higher mental needs than that of a normal child? It's a stormy sea to navigate and I'm hoping that my elected officials don't leave my sons out there without a lifejacket. I'm hoping that, with treatment, that he will find his way. I've been so reluctant to put him on ADHD meds, afraid of them but how can I, as a mother, keep him from something that, after a lot of my own research and soul searching, has a high probability of helping him function and grow into a well rounded adult? How can Graham-Cassidy decide that my sons, both of which, are "preexisting conditions"? The didn't ask to be born this way but, you know what, despite the challenges they bring, I am so grateful that they're here and that they are the way they are. It's a thing called unconditional love. I cannot believe that the Conservative Party, who champions ProLife views, would even bring such a bill to the floor. Without mental help, what kind of future will children like my sons have? They are trying to rob them of brighter futures with this bill and I am disheartened. When they reach adulthood and find jobs, how will they be able to afford living expenses in addition to astronomical, out of pocket expenses, just to continue their own treatment. Unless they're rich, they won't. They'll have to choose and they'll likely go without medical help. Without that, their minds will begin spinning again and then they'll lose their jobs because of something out of their control. Why? Because of Graham-Cassidy. Please, do not do this. It's because of the ACA that their conditions aren't scrutinized and denied. It's because of the ACA that keeps insurers from raising our premiums so high that we have to choose between ourselves and our sons and, if his bill passes, I will go without healthcare to make sure there's enough money for my sons. Reconsider what you are doing. Be the bipartisan party and include Democrats and Independents into writing a bill that safeguards everybody or work to fix the ACA. Healthcare is a right. Not a privilege. Many of you have forgotten that. You have also forgotten that you work for the American people.

Warmest Regards
Mary Moody

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brock <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't destroy ACA

Please just fix ACA! It's a good law! Change the name of that upsets you. It helps people. And our President that would sign your repeal might very well be found out to be illegitimate. Don't be on the wrong side of history and steal Healthcare from millions!

Brock from Arkansas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Celia Montgomery <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Schumer, Senator (Schumer); Senator (Gillibrand)
Subject: Graham Cassidy Repeal of the ACA

Dear Members of the Finance Company,

It is my understanding that you will hold a hearing on the Graham Cassidy bill on Monday at 2 pm. Your actions matter to me.

I'm am a 45 year old breast cancer survivor. I will forever be banned from obtaining private insurance if the Graham Cassidy bill is passed.

15 years ago, my aunt died of ovarian cancer. She had symptoms of cancer for at least a year but did not go to the doctor because she had no insurance. She had a heart defect that made her ineligible. She was the mother of teenage boys and a wonderful person. My uncle and my cousins were devastated by her loss. If she had been on insurance when she got sick, she would have gone to the doctor and gotten a diagnosis before it was too late. Further, her illness would not have ruined her family's finances, and caused her last days to be incredibly stressful.

My friend Kendra is a beautiful kind working actress in Los Angeles. In early summer, she started noticing weird lumps on her body and they turned out to be stage 4 lymphoma. She's on the ACA. The doctors have told her that her lymphoma can be managed, but never cured. She will need care for the rest of her life. What will happen to her if this bill passes???

If compassion is not enough, consider this: uninsured sick people will not go to the doctor until they reach a crisis. Emergency care is incredibly expensive. As other countries have learned - costs fall steadily when people seek preventative care. Further: everyone is happy and healthy!

Let's support health and happiness! Strike down this terrible senseless bill.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] BJ
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: carmen alejo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I have neuropathy. I had spent 10 years without going to doctor. Because I couldn't afford it until Obama care. Without it I would not be able to afford my medicine and I don't know what I'm gonna do for people that don't really care about the people from the USA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Rose Quinn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Afraid from CA and AZ

To Senator Lindsey Graham, Senator Bill Cassidy and any other Senator considering voting for this healthcare bill --

I am scared. My husband I will celebrate 3 years of marriage on October 4th. We are very much hoping to start a family soon. I am 35. We have been together for 9 years. We waited to start a family until we felt financially secure. Our health insurance is provided by my guild. To retain insurance I must earn a certain amount of money in a certain time frame. I have not achieved that this year, meaning our insurance will lapse on March 31st, 2018. I am scared to get pregnant now. I fear that if I was pregnant when my current care lapsed that I would be disqualified from all insurance on the market place, as I would be a walking talking pre-existing condition. I would fear that if anything happened during delivery that my child's life would be determined not by doctors, but by insurance companies pricing us out of saving our baby. Why are you doing this to us, Senators?

I am scared. My nephew is a happy healthy 6 year old. He loves soccer, and riding his bike. He likes to dance, and is an excellent swimmer. However before he was born, his mother (my sister-in-law) went into early labor. VERY early. She was only 6 months pregnant when the doctors admitted her to the high risk maternity ward, monitoring the baby very closely. When my nephew arrived at 34 weeks, he was taken directly to the NICU where he remained for another month. If this bill passes, I will be ever fearful for him. He has already reached what many insurance companies would consider a life-time cap. He already has pre-existing conditions. Should we just HOPE that he never falls off his bike? That he never gets chicken pox? That he never gets strep throat? Or god forbid that ANYTHING happen to him during his long life?? Why are you doing this to him, Senators?

I am scared. My aunt lives in Arizona. After working as a school aid for special needs children, she now has early on-set dementia. She needs round the clock care. We sold her home to help pay for a nurse, so no one is looking for a hand out. Tough choices have already been made. Sacrifices have already been made. But we rely on her Medicaid to make ends meet. She is young - only 70. Her health is good otherwise. What happens to her when Medicaid gets cut? What happens in 2026 when federal funding goes away entirely? How will we care for her? Why are you doing this to her, Senators?

I am scared. I am scared that you see numbers, and campaign promises. But I see a life-long dream of becoming a mother being taken away. I see my nephew living with a cloud over him, not able to live his life to the fullest. I see my aunt suffering in her last years.

This bill is wrong. It is immoral. If you pass it, the shame of this bill will follow you. No one writes "they kept their campaign promises" in an obituary. They will write that you heard the cries and pleas of the American people and you ignored them.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Quinn

We are concerned about cuts to Medicaid because we have seen how it provides for our daughter and our family. Our primary insurance is not bad by any means, but because of the rarity and severity of our daughters lifelong condition, it does not provide all that Brooke needs to be a thriving young girl and some day thriving and independent adult.

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

Sincerely,

Nicole Guysi

[REDACTED] e

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Elizabeth Warren
Subject: Protect affordable health care for all Americans!

My father had Alzheimer's and my mom had cancer. Because of Medicare, Medicaid, and the ACA, both were able to afford good, humane care, almost the kind of care congress can get, almost the kind of care the 1% can get.

Please, please, for mercy's sake, protect and improve health care for all. Vote down the newest incarnation of Trumpcare.

Sincerely,
R.Y. kubek

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nicole G [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: jguerney@familyvoices.org; McCain, Senator (McCain); Senator (Flake); info@raisingspecialkids.org
Subject: Medicaid Concerns

Good afternoon,

My name is Nicole Guysi and I live in Glendale, AZ. Our daughter is Brooke Guysi and she is 6 years old. The best way to describe our Brooke is bright. Bright in intelligence and personality. Her smile truly brightens any environment and her bright outlook shines for all to see.

Brooke has a rare genetic disorder called Cohen Syndrome. Cohen Syndrome causes developmental delay, progressive vision loss, Brooke is non-verbal, has low muscle tone, a feeding tube and Neutropenia. For Brooke to overcome these challenges and reach her full potential she needs a team of support which includes feeding therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy (educational and medically based) and seeing several specialists on a regular basis (dermatologist, GI, hematologist, ophthalmologist, orthopedic, PCP, developmental pediatrician, geneticist and recently added a cardiologist). The costs of ensuring Brookes care is too big for our family. Five years ago we were barely making ends meet because of paying for these costs. It wasn't until we had Medicaid that we not only were able to finally get stabilized financially, but we also were able to get our daughter the complete care she needed to reach her full potential.

Because of Medicaid, our daughter has received adaptive equipment that has been an absolute necessity to her progress (i.e. communication device, SPIO vest, etc). While we are grateful for the insurance my husbands job provides, it is limited. Because our daughters genetic disorder is so rare there are no insurance codes specific to her disorder and we find that our primary insurance falls short of providing what our daughter needs. But Medicaid fills in that gap for Brooke which allows her to receive all the therapies she needs, instead of choosing which one our primary will cover.

Medicaid has not only allowed for Brooke to achieve more independence, but it has allowed our family to achieve more independence as well. Since we have had Medicaid for Brooke we have been able to become debt-free, have a fully funded emergency fund and buy a house. I promise you we are not living in the lap of luxury. Our home is less than 1100 square feet but we are grateful to be homeowners because it provides stability to our family. Without Medicaid we would go through our emergency fund easily within a year (most likely less) to pay for the services Brooke needs that Medicaid provides.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lizbeth Glickman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Pre-Existing Health Problems

Importance: High

Senators:

Be advised that having worked for a small salary for 45 years, and no longer able to work, I can barely afford a roof, food, medicine. Already, I cannot afford dental care and your proposed #GrahamCassidy bill will end my life. As the only child of a WWII U.S. Army 1st Lieutenant, I am insulted by your even considering the insanity that you propose to inflict upon citizens such as myself because you "promised to end Obamacare." You will end me and millions of others and we will not stand for it.

Sincerely,

Lizbeth A. Glickman
Waltham, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julia Erickson [REDACTED] m>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill that has been brought before your. It does not provide care for those with pre-existing conditions, nor does it provide coverage for all those who currently are covered by Medicaid or the ACA.

Instead please work to build upon the ACA to achieve the goal of quality, affordable health care for all God's children.

Julia Erickson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Beazley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do the moral thing and reject the Graham-Cassidy plan

To whom it may concern on the Finance Committee.

The protections enshrined at the heart of the American Care Act have saved the lives many of my friends and kept them from bankruptcy. Were the provisions that prevent insurers from discriminating against those with pre-existing conditions removed or waived as is undoubtedly the outcome of the Graham-Cassidy plan, they would be uninsurable and unable to pay for the medical care they need to live productive lives.

As an American and a human being, I'm disgusted by the lack of transparency and deliberate obfuscation employed by Senators Graham, Cassidy, Heller, Johnson and others in their attempt to repeal the American Care Act for purely political gains particularly when the overwhelming majority of health organizations such as the American Medical Association, American Cancer Society, American Academy of Pediatrics, AARP, along with insurance companies Blue Cross/Blue Shield have all spoken out in strident opposition to the adverse affects of this plan. Republican Senators are pushing forward with a plan that cause millions of Americans to lose health care.

Please reject this plan and return to a bi-partisan coalition to properly fund the ACA.

Sincerely,
Mark D Beazley
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Page Hunter, Townline Design [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:14 PM
To: gchcomments

Please vote no on the Graham Cassidy bill.

I count on the ACA for my insurance, which I cannot afford to have without subsidies.

Before the ACA, because I have a pre-existing condition (Addison's Disease), I had to stay with the insurance company I had when diagnosed. That company boosted my bill to \$2,900 per month, with a \$15,000 deduction and a \$50 copay. I couldn't afford it, and many doctors won't see you without insurance. I had to pay my endocrinologist cash, because I die without my medication.

Because my 25 year old daughter had childhood epilepsy, no insurance company would take her without a high premium, plus excluding any neurological problems for the first five years.

If we take away the ACA, people will once again be crowding the emergency rooms for basic care, because the overwhelming majority of doctors do not take you without insurance. Many of these same people will be forced to declare bankruptcy due to medical bills. This type of non-care system just costs everyone more in the end, and leaves people without essential medical care.

It is in all people's best interest to vote no on this bill.

If you want to change the ACA, make it BETTER, not worse. Single payer is the only solution that I can see.

Page Hunter L.A.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Road
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brooke McMurray <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My son is a Type 1 Diabetic...

...and a musician. His name is Grey. He buys insurance on nystateofhealth.gov, the exchange set up by New York State under the ACA.

He, and so many like him, are freelancers, working multiple jobs, traveling constantly, working long hours, trying to make a living. They are, in more ways than one, the epitome of the Gig Economy.

Grey is also a Type 1 Diabetic. That means he requires daily doses of insulin, self-injected, to STAY ALIVE. He is able to buy medical care and the insulin that keeps him alive AT AFFORDABLE RATES thanks to to the ACA and the premium tax credits it provides which helps make his premium expenses manageable.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill would strip all this away. Its failure to protect people with pre-existing conditions, like Grey, and its reintroduction of annual and/or lifetime caps could, potentially, be a death sentence for him and millions of other people like him.

I know it's been said a lot but Senator Cassidy is a DOCTOR for heavens sakes; he should know—and appears to have conveniently forgotten—that all doctors promise to “first, do no harm.”

This abomination of a bill would do precisely what he swore not to do. I cannot believe that all Americans are forced, once again, to beg their elected representatives--- who supposedly work for us---to preserve our ability to have affordable healthcare and for people like my son to stay alive.

No one has ever said the ACA is perfect. It needs repair. That you can provide easily. In a BIPARTISAN manner. It is not failing, as some keep insisting. It is being sabotaged by an Administration that seems hellbent of wiping out a vital, lifesaving piece of legislation simply because it was named for a black man. I have not heard ONE honest, cogent argument in this bill's favor made by ANYONE. The reason, clearly, is because there is NOT ONE.

Do you realize that there are thousands, if not millions, of Americans like me who, once again, cannot sleep at night because they fear what will happen to themselves and their loved ones if this horrible monstrosity of a bill becomes law? Is that okay with you?

Do you really think Americans ought to be afraid of their own Government?

Sincerely,

Brooke McMurray

Brooke McMurray

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ERIC ROBINSON <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

To Whom it May Concern,

Please don't do this. In a nation with massively expanding wealth gap, its imperative we don't escalate the problem. Instead, why can't we strive towards being not only a country who ensures healthcare for ALL citizens, but one that does it better than everyone else?

Please don't make this nightmare bill a reality!

Sincerely,

ERIC ROBINSON
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



ua.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect affordable health care for all Americans!

My father had Alzheimer's and my mom had cancer. Because of Medicare, Medicaid, and the ACA, both were able to afford good, humane care, almost the kind of care congress can get, almost the kind of care the 1% can get.

Please, please, for mercy's sake, protect and improve health care for all. Vote down the newest incarnation of Trumpcare.

Sincerely,
R.Y. kubek

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Colleen Hocking [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: CC ASLavitt

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. Americans deserve so much more than this. States should not have access to waivers that could lift the limits for people with pre-existing conditions. Also, it is not fair to our country to pass a bill with minimum time and thought invested, **just to meet a deadline**. Anyone who votes for this should be ashamed of themselves.

I am in favor of a single-payer plan without costly profits to outsiders. All of the money should go to the actual cost of healthcare and the necessary costs of management.

Thank you,

Colleen Hocking
Hugo Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act Repeal

Dear sirs,

I will endeavor to keep this brief. For-profit health insurance and health insurance companies (HIC) are an abomination against humanity.

If you are ill and need care, upon calling your HIC the first thing you hear shouldn't be about paying your premiums, as is presently the case. It should be about getting needed care to get better to go on being a productive member of a civilized society.

Before the ACA/Obamacare, I was forced to pay over \$13,000 a year in premiums & deductibles for continuation of coverage because I had a "preexisting condition". This was unsustainable, I was only 37 years old at that time.

The United States of America needs to move to a modern system of socialized medicine similar to Japan, Denmark, or France.

We put people on the moon. We built a national highway system. We can do this too.

Sincerely,
Amy Miller

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Wiebe (Sally) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote no

Under your proposed healthcare plan, my friend who has cystic fibrosis and is pregnant would be at risk for not receiving the prenatal care she needs at an affordable cost. Different from most pregnant women who go to check up and see 1 doctor, my friend has to make visits more frequently than the average pregnant woman, and she has to be with a team of about 8 doctors, thereby raising the potential cost for an appointment.

This just represents 1 of many friends and family members who have run into health problems like any normal, healthy American. My uncle died of adrenal cortical cancer, my aunt died of breast cancer, my cousin has Parkinsons, my sister has asthma, and the list continues. None of these people asked for their preexisting condition. Neither did John McCain.

I can certainly understand and appreciate the intent to reform our healthcare system as it stands -- I hate that the Affordable Care Act has indeed made healthcare more expensive for some states, and I hate that some governors refused the Medicaid expansion -- however that does not entitle the government to push through a bill this quickly that cannot be evaluated by intelligent, unbiased parties like the CBO. You must vote no on this and not leave all healthcare decisions up to the states. And you must not defund Planned Parenthood. How many women need to remind you that a) the government pays PP back for "services rendered", and it doesn't bankroll abortions and b) that men and women access basic healthcare from PP? Preventative healthcare is a necessity for all. The members of the federal government should be so lucky to not have to feel the anxious way so many Americans feel right now. It hurts especially that Lindsey Graham, who has become a real advocate for things I follow and support, is now attempting to do something so quickly and disgracefully.

Thanks for your time.

--
Sarah Wiebe (Sally)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kassiane Asasumasu [REDACTED] m>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: You wanna kill me? Then you owe it to me to read about HOW.
Attachments: 12496243_10153594535364597_6350885118430164098_o.jpg

Dear Congresspersons,

My name is Kassiane Asasumasu. I live with epilepsy and adrenal insufficiency and depend on the ACA to not die terribly. Without the care the ACA provides me, I will die. If I am dead, I cannot vote for you, your party or, anyone, and we all know reelection is your primary priority.

In my case, it's a race to see which awful way I get to die first, so you get to read about both of them! Oh happy day!

Death by epilepsy can look extremely dramatic, if it comes in the form of status epilepticus. Imagine every bad TV seizure you've ever seen portrayed. Now imagine it without the conscious checks and balances that keep the actor from hurting himself thrashing about. See, when you are having a seizure there's nothing telling your body that you are strong enough to dislocate your own shoulder (or hip. Or collarbone). Now imagine that seizure not stopping. Not only are you dislocating everything dislocatable, you're also exhausting your muscles. You may have heard of rhabdomyolysis. That's when your muscles release a bunch of proteins and that poisons your kidneys. Your organs shut down. Added to this is that constant twitching as hard as you can works up quite a fever, and that this is a symptom of your brain literally frying yourself with electricity. Never ending rhythmic electrical pulses in your brain destroy it. IF you survive you survive with the equivalent of a coma-inducing knock to the head.

That's what you want for me. My brain to electrocute me to death via organ failure. Some representative you are.

That is, of course, unless I just drop dead from Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy. No one can tell you quite the mechanism of death in SUDEP, but they can tell you risk factors: being a young adult, having right sided seizure focii, having other neurological disabilities, being on multiple medications, not taking one's medication, and uncontrolled seizures. With your help, I can meet all of these!

There is of course a chance that adrenal insufficiency, and the associated adrenal crisis, would kill me first. I don't make cortisol. At all. As much as infomercial quacks want you to believe cortisol is the cause of your ills, that's not quite how it works. Cortisol maintains your blood sugar, your blood pressure, pulse rate, and other homeostatic functions. If you don't make cortisol, your body can't bring these functions back to baseline if you throw up, have a fever, or get injured. Something like a broken foot or a stomach virus can throw you into shock. It's a quiet, avoidable death by cardiovascular collapse, all because a bunch of white men are throwing tantrums that a black man gave poor people health insurance while they were crying about fetuses they don't actually care about.

If Republicans were actually pro life, I wouldn't have to write you this email about the "how do I die?" roulette you want for me.

If you allow or, worse, vote for the repeal of the ACA, *you* are killing me. My blood is on your hands. You will be my murderer.

Share this letter with your colleagues. Make sure everyone in congress and everyone associated with them reads this.

Kassiane Asasumasu

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fran Hodgins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Please stop the Graham-Cassidy Bill!

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing to voice my extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy- Heller-Johnson proposal. Instead of continuing down a bipartisan path and working on issues to improve the strength and stability of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) marketplaces, the sponsors of this legislation have put forward a proposal that will:

- Eliminate the financial assistance that helps low- and moderate-income families purchase health care coverage;
- End expanded Medicaid coverage that helps millions of low-income adults;
- Gut Medicaid through deep, permanent cuts that would grow over time and threaten care for millions of low-income seniors, children, and people living with disabilities and shift massive costs and risks to states;
- Jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths
- Undermine essential protections for people with pre-existing conditions;
- Resurrect - and worsen - the devastating cuts in coverage and benefits that the American public and the majority of Congress have already rejected.

The Graham-Cassidy- Heller-Johnson proposal threatens the health and financial security of millions of Americans including older adults, low-and moderate-income families, people living with disabilities, veterans and people with preexisting conditions. It does nothing to improve affordability or availability of coverage for consumers and will likely result in approximately 665,000 Massachusetts residents losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.

Please stop the Graham-Cassidy Bill!

Thank you,

Fran Hodgins
--

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trisha Raque-Bogdan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I am writing in strong opposition to the proposed Graham Cassidy bill. This bill would be devastating for my family, and so many other Americans. My husband and I are both working professionals with advanced degrees and contribute as taxpayers to our local and national economy. We have a son with Down syndrome and rely on the Medicaid extension made available through the Affordable Care Act.

Medicaid is the only way that our son can access behavior therapy services that have been critical for him to succeed in school. Further, a lifetime cap on medical costs would devastate us financially given that we will be utilizing medical services related to pulmonology, ear nose and throat, and a lifelong need for speech, physical, and occupational therapies. I simply do not understand how GOP Senators who claim to be pro-life refuse access to medical services for individuals after they are born--how is that pro life?

Additionally, it is only because of access to at home therapies for our son that my husband and I are able to maintain our full time employment. If access to at home therapies are removed, as they likely will be the first thing that states will cut if states have to rely on block grants for Medicaid services, then it will be impossible for my husband and I to continue to work full time, thereby detracting from our contributions to the tax system and only increasing our reliance on public services.

In short, the Graham Cassidy bill threatens to only damage our most vulnerable populations, such as people with disabilities, and does nothing to correct the current flaws in our healthcare system.

Sincerely,

Trish Raque-Bogdan

--
Trisha Raque-Bogdan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Henry Paret <hparet@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH Comments for SFC Hearing

As a natural citizen of this great country we call the United States of America I am appalled at the manner in which this Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill has been introduced and approached by the GOP majority leadership in the Senate. While trying to duck under the reconciliation timeline this extremely damaging Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill has not been vetted and the potential impacts as scored by the CBO are unknown. What I expect our elected officials in Washington DC and elsewhere to do is give great consideration to any bill that is passed and not just pass something for the optics of "fulfilling campaign promises" or for satisfying the wishes of a few deep pockets like the Koch Brothers. This bill directly affects 1/6th of the U.S. economy and the lives and livelihood of all Americans. I fear for the future of this great country if we embark on the heartless road we will certainly embark on if the GS Healthcare bill is passed. Not only will it create misery for many Americans who today rely on the healthcare system it will force people in the future to choose between their health and bankruptcy. Many will lose their life savings and many will lose their lives. The United States of America is a country of great and vast resources but we seem to have lost the empathy needed to care for the weakest among us. Let's not forget a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. We ignore our weakest at our own peril. The economic future is also strained by the GS Healthcare bill. It seems to me that fewer people will choose to have children as the costs of doing so will sky rocket – this is a very large problem for the future demographics of the U.S. and the ability to maintain economic prosperity and the Social Security program at current or better levels. I hope that our elected U.S. Senators from all states weigh and measure the impacts of this bill from all angles before making a decision and if you do not have time to make an informed decision it is better to not make one at all. I do not want to see an America that can do many great things but cannot find a humane way to deal with the healthcare of its people. Please Vote No on the Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill. May God be with you as you hold in your collective hands the future for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Henry J. Paret

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Riggle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on GC Bill

After working 25 years in the Child Welfare field, including serving as a CASA volunteer representing Foster children in the state of Texas, I implore you to vote NO on the GC bill. My home state of Texas already accepts little Medicaid funding, and there are many innocent children (including disabled children) that come from impoverished families dependent on Medicaid. To reduce that funding is inhumane.

I also have a personal experience with a sister afflicted with cancer who can no longer work, yet she can afford (with subsidy support) to pay the premiums of ACA due to the requirement that pre-existing conditions be covered. Her payments went up slightly last year, but they are still affordable. If she is placed into a special pool because of her cancer, she most certainly will suffer because the insurance companies will only cover certain treatments & demand higher premiums for this pool. The ACA has worked very well for her treatment.

Kathy Riggle

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chuck Scheffreen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Republican Health Bill

Like every other bill they have submitted. this bill causes more harm than good, and does nothing to insure that all citizens have health insurance.z

Why don't the Republicans say that they mean and name their next health bill:
"Don't Get Sick."

All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.
Julian of Norwich (1342-ca - 1416)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill
Attachments: Epilepsy.htm

To Whom it May Concern,

I am e-mailing you today with huge concerns over this bill. I am a divorce mother of 3 children ages 12, 11, and 9. Each one of them have issues, but my oldest 12 year old has sever disabilities. I have attached a video that I made to bring awarness to a rare form of epilepsy called Lennox-Gastault Syndrom, an extremely difficult to control type of epilepsy. My son Nik that has this is on a Childrens Long Term Waiver. Without the assistance that we have received I don't know if he would still be with us today and also without this assistance I would not be able to work to support all of my family, not to mention the toll it would take on my own mental health. We need to find a different way.

Dawn Kulogo

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Broderhausen [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is a dangerous disaster for the American people

Please vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I am disappointed and furious that the Senate GOP would try to rush through a bill before a CBO score and without allowing any hearings or debate, all in the name of fulfilling their promise to repeal the ACA.

We need an independent analysis that would show the true picture of how many people would lose insurance under this bill, immediately and by 2027. We have to work together to fix the problems with ACA, and Senator Murray is trying to do just that. The Graham-Cassidy bill is nothing but a destructive, discriminatory attempt to deny healthcare to those who need it most.

My friend "O" is a 45 year old woman with a serious preexisting condition. She had Hodgkins Lymphoma as a 14 yr old and had large amounts of radiation. As an adult, she has had breast cancer twice and a double mastectomy, two heart attacks and open heart surgery, as well as lung complications and a blood clot in her lungs. Without health insurance, she would absolutely not have received the quality of care she needed, and I have no doubt she would not be around today. Because of her coverage and amazing doctors, she is recovering from her latest surgery and thriving. Because of the ACA, she cannot be denied coverage, no matter what state she lives in. the Graham-Cassidy Bill would likely result in her being denied for coverage because of her preexisting condition.

I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

A concerned citizen,

Rachel Broderhausen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jerry Bayless <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on Graham-Cassidy Repeal

I cannot support another attempt, worse than others, repeal of ACA!
Improve ACA, don't start over!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Bell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC will kill people

Graham-Cassidy is an EVIL bill. It will caused app.It is difficult to list all the problems with it, but these are some of the worst ones.

Children in low income families, esp. those with health problems, the elderly who rely on on Medicaid for nursing home care, and the disabled who need its funds for home care assistance will be seriously harmed by the Medicaid cuts. 13 million lower income women will lose access to prenatal care, harming and in some instances killing people. States will have the option of waiving essential health benefits so companies can make people pay for worthless policies. States will also be able to waive the requirement that people with pre-existing conditions will not be charged more for insurance so insurance will become unaffordable for these people. And Graham Cassidy ends the prohibition on lifetime caps, so that one serious illness or one major accident can make you ineligible for health insurance for the rest of their lives.

Graham-Cassidy also is not following regular order in the Senate. There have been no hearings and the only scheduled to happen is in a totally inappropriate committee. A vote is being forced before even a full CBO score is in. Floor debate on the bill will be essentially nonexistent.

It is so wrong to treat a bill that affects 1/6 of our national economy in this way. The bill cheats the American public with both its content and its process.

This bill MUST DIE, so fewer Americans die.

Helen Bell

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phillip Tate <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote no

This bill will destroy the individual insurance market. That will make it more difficult for people to take the risk of becoming entrepreneurs. It will also make it harder for small businesses to attract the talent they need to grow. This is bad for business and bad for entrepreneurship.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: nancyhuse [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Latest GOP attempt to deny citizens health care

Wake up, GOP. You cannot continue cynical efforts to destroy the ACA instead of improving it. Why should US citizens be deprived of health care so you can be re-elected in your gerrymandered districts? The comments of Senator Grassland about passing this bill show what a callous and dangerous group you have become.

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® A latest GO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alessandra Cherednichenko [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep the ACA

As a concerned citizen and registered nurse I am horrified to hear that the Graham Cassidy Bill might pass and thusly cut away at Medicaid funding and erase protections for people with pre existing conditions. This is a disgrace and should not pass. People's lives are literally on the line and this amendment is unacceptable.

Sincerely,

Aleks Cherednichenko, RN

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Liebman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass this bill!

Dear Senators,

This bill will cause 32 million people to lose insurance. It will hurt families across the country and destroy my peace of mind. It will lead to 37% reductions in medicaid funds. It will especially hurt my state. It will lead to 20% higher premiums and job losses.

If you doubt these numbers, why don't you wait for a full, thorough CBO score?

The only reason to pass it is promises to billionaire campaign donors. The American people will see right through that and they will be sure that you too lose your jobs for your wildly irresponsible, cruel choice to support this bill.

Sarah

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DJ Salisbury <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

It will be a dark day in American history if the bill passes into law without due diligence in holding hearings that thoroughly inform Congress and the American people EXACTLY what the proposed law would mean to Americans and what the the REAL numbers (as assessed by the CBO) would be of those who would lose insurance coverage if the bill passes. DO NOT SIDESTEP THE PROCESS for political gain! Lives are at stake.

“Access” does NOT mean “affordable.” Exorbitant premiums for pre-exisitng conditions is equal to no coverage at all for such.

DJ Salisbury

[REDACTED] her
[REDACTED] om
[REDACTED] om
[REDACTED] 718

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda King <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy, Save My Healthcare

I urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As with the other attempts to repeal the ACA, this bill will detrimental to millions of our nation's poorest families and children. I watch these healthcare votes closely because they affect me so deeply as well. As a woman, expectant mother, and entrepreneur, I receive my healthcare coverage that I can afford from the ACA Marketplace; I rely on having maternity care as an essential health benefit; I rely on not being considered a pre-existing condition because I am a woman of childbearing age (and now pregnant); and I receive my women's health services from Planned Parenthood. All of the ways that healthcare touches me will likely be taken away under this terrible and immoral legislation. As someone in the middle class, I'm not sure who this bill is supposed to be good for. Graham-Cassidy will be devastating to me and my family.

--

Amanda King

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Health care

Dear Finance Committee members:

How many stories does Congress need to realize that Americans need quality health care and draconian bills like the Graham-Cassidy are no way to get it?

As a primary-care nurse practitioner, I could relay numerous stories about how the Affordable Care Act helps people stay healthy, especially children, elderly, and the disabled. But I'll keep it short and just share a couple of stories, from the sublime to the ridiculous.

One of the most moving experiences, and most relevant to this healthcare debate, in my 40-year career as a nurse involved a seriously ill patient. A few years back, a new patient came into my office without an appointment; he was hugging the walls for support because he was too out of breath and weak to walk on his own. Though he had had respiratory difficulties for some time, he had delayed getting health care because he had no insurance. Being self-employed in a small, struggling business, he couldn't afford it. By coming to my office, a federally qualified health center, he was hoping to avoid a costly emergency room visit. As I listened to his lungs, I thought I might as well be listening to a brick wall: there were no sounds of air going into his lungs. Because I knew his condition required an intensive work-up, I sent him to the local hospital. There he was diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer. He died in that hospital's ICU 6 days later. Had he had health care coverage and had he come to my office earlier, I might have been able to provide care to save his life, or to at least I could have made him comfortable in his own home with a hospice referral.

On a less somber note, while in college, my son had aged out of our health insurance policy. When we went to buy out-of-pocket coverage for him, the company told us they could not insure all of him; his left arm would not be a part of the policy. A few months before the application, our son had fallen and sprained his left wrist. Despite normal x-rays and a full recovery, he now had a pre-existing condition. I guess we could consider ourselves lucky he could get any kind of coverage at all.

People with cancer, diabetes, or even pregnancy will have a difficult time getting health care coverage if Graham-Cassidy passes. Others, like my patient, will die. I look forward to the day when Congress has an open and frank discussion about what constitutes healthcare coverage for our citizens and come up with a bipartisan bill that is evidence-based. That's how we in healthcare practice: even if we've been doing things the same way for years, we adapt to new ways, using quality peer-review measures to deliver the best care possible to our patients.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Groff APRN
family nurse practitioner

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Zaino <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health proposal

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy health care proposal. It would do harm to many people, would eliminate health care for millions, and provide no benefit to the public in general.

Thank you,
Richard Zaino, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Senryu Pechovnik [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Bipartisan reform not unilateral repeal

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

I am a cancer survivor. Today I am lucky enough to be working and have healthcare through my employer. My husband is self employed and cannot insure me at a reasonable cost. If I choose to change my employer, under Graham-Cassidy I would lose coverage for surveillance of a recurrence. Today that means a bi-annual visit to my doctor. Some day it may mean an MRI or a biopsy. And if the cancer does come back, I'd face the treatment, with all of its physical and emotional difficulties, in an atmosphere of uncertainty and worry about whether I was bankrupting my family.

Even if I stay with my employer I'd have to worry about the length and intensity of the treatment because I'd only have 12 weeks of protected medical leave through FMLA. My last treatment regimen required: surgery (2 week recovery), 16 weeks of chemotherapy and 7 weeks of radiation. Of course there's COBRA which today costs \$1500 a month.

Can you imagine losing your wife to cancer *and* losing your retirement, all your savings, maybe even your house and car in an effort to save her? Or beating cancer a second time only to face a future in which all your financial resources were exhausted in the fight?

So if Graham-Cassidy passes, I'm locked in this job whether I'm sick or healthy, and if I get sick my future will look pretty grim. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Phyliss Pechovnik

Portland, Oregon

--

We must accept our existence to the greatest extent possible; everything, the unprecedented also, needs to be accepted. - Rilke

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bill/Shirley Walsh/Weathers [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill is the worst yet

Greetings,

Look at the polls. Listen to the healthcare community. The states don't want your awful legislation. Listen to John McCain. Ignore your hubris.

Now it's time to return to Regular Order and work in a bipartisan manner to fix ACA for our people.

Thank you.

Bill

Bill Walsh & Shirley Weathers

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Eagle Point, OR [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Craig Marburger [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Craig Marburger
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Portland, Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ashley Wright [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Before I had ACA, my life was worse. Whenever I got sick I would avoid the doctor visit i couldn't afford, and try to treat my illness with home remedies which take longer than modern medicine, and I'd miss more days of work. Please do the right thing and don't repeal the ACA.

Ashley Wright
Eugene, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Feinstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No vote on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. With pre-existing conditions; chronic back pain and depression, and a partner who suffers from alcoholism, it is critical that an effort to move forward in a manner that helps us remain covered and not be denied the medical coverage necessary, for us to be fiscally strong and employed, instead of being a burden to our already strained system.

I agree our premiums have become too high, but we were able to get coverage for a critical year of recovery without it destroying us financially. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Lynn Feinstein

Portland, Oregon

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Aaserude [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Ethan's Medicaid Story

Honorable Committee Members:

Our son, Ethan, was diagnosed with a genetic disorder just before his first birthday. Hurler's Syndrome is a lysosomal storage disorder—meaning Ethan's body doesn't produce an enzyme that is needed to breakdown the waste products in his cells—that's in every cell of his body. Hurler's is extremely rare (1 in 100,000 births), it is degenerative, and it has no cure. There is treatment to slow the progression of the disease, but the most effective treatment (stem cell transplant) has a 10-30% mortality rate. The other treatment, a synthetic enzyme, does not cross the blood-brain barrier well, so is of little help in slowing the cognitive decline associated with Hurler's, but does help with most of the other parts of the body, all of which are affected. Children who are untreated die by age 10 in a vegetative state.

Ethan has been through two transplants and spent years on enzyme therapy as well as part of a clinical trial. He has had several major orthopedic surgeries to correct problems caused by Hurler's—carpal tunnel, hernia repairs, spinal fusion, and knee and hip surgeries. Because of all this intervention, Ethan missed critical early childhood experiences and instead was exposed to much medical trauma. Though it has prolonged his life, he has acute stress disorder and developmental disabilities.

Luckily, I have been able to remain employed while my husband quit his job to care for the kids, so we've maintained good insurance coverage. It still wasn't enough, however, as the cost of a transplant is about \$1 million dollars and the enzyme is about \$6,000 per week. Each of the surgeries is expensive and any one of them could have wiped us out.

Medicaid has enabled us to stay in our home, to have extra care for Ethan so that my husband could go back to school and eventually get back to work, and has kept us from going bankrupt. Ethan is now a pretty happy 9-year-old who attends school full time in a special education classroom. He has a chance at being a productive member of society with a family who is less stressed than those who do not have that extra help. We are able to be productive too, and continue to contribute to our society.

We know we use more of the government system's resources than most people, and we appreciate how if everyone pays into the system, it is there when anyone needs it.

We urge you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill, maintain the Affordable Care Act, and to work to improve our healthcare system even more.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah A. Aaserude & Todd S. Waddell
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that I have a daughter who was born with cleft lip and palate. For years even though this condition is a birth defect it was not recognized as such. With every repair we had to fight to get coverage, That changed at the end of her process and is now treated as a birth defect. The anxiety of every time having to fight with insurance and not know what would be covered was awful. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Pamela Zellers

Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: brandi lynn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My family's health is important

Hi there,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. We, specifically, receive Medicaid and I would not be alive today if not for that coverage. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I've faced serious depression and anxiety, and recently learned that this was due to ovarian health issues. My health coverage enabled me to get the treatment I needed before the situation became truly life-threatening.

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

Sincerely,

Brandi Welch

Portland, OR

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Must keep the Affordable Care Act

Importance: High

Good day to you,

My family in Oregon tries to work every day.

My wife is a Green Card holder and I am retired.

We must keep the Affordable Care Act.

We live on small work and keeping healthy.

Without this Affordable Care Act ...we could not go to the Doctor...could not afford Medical Payments.

I am Semi-Retired and we have a young boy to take care of daily.

Please continue to help America.

Bari, Thea and Zealand Swartz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Anne Ericson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy health care bill

My daughter endured years of health anxiety and insecurity because she was both self-employed and had a pre-existing condition, making it impossible for her to obtain affordable health insurance. The ACA was a godsend for her and for those of us who love her. For the first time she had good insurance that she could afford. I oppose Graham-Cassidy and any attempt at health care "reform" to leave coverage for pre-existing conditions to the mercy of the states. I'm in favor of a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA.

Mary Anne Ericson
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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 Alstad
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Salem, Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charity [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Public Testimony

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare.

I have had Ovarian cancer in the past and had a full hysterectomy before my 40th birthday. This is a pre-existing condition that will forever doom me to high-cost, high-risk insurance pools if the current health care system is repealed. I have also recently been diagnosed with Diabetes which means in order to maintain my health and avoid future high-cost health procedures I must have regular medication and doctor visits. Any disruption to my health care would be disastrous to my future health and my family's security.

I would like to see bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA rather than repeal it. Whatever problems are perceived in the current system can be fixed without the danger to millions of Americans that would come from just sweeping the current system away and hoping to come up with a different one.

In conclusion, I stand with the following medical & health organizations and strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill:

Adult Congenital Heart Association, ALS Association, Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's Impact Movement, American Cancer Society, American College of Emergency Physicians, American College of Physicians, American College of Preventive Medicine, American Diabetes Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Cancer Society, American College of Emergency Physicians, American College of Physicians, American College of Preventive Medicine, American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Diabetes Association, America's Essential Hospitals, American Foundation for the Blind, American Health Care Association, America's Health Insurance Plans, American Heart Association, American Hospital Association, American Liver Foundation, American Lung Association, American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, American Osteopathic Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological Association, American Public Health Association, American Society for Addiction Medicine, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Amputee Coalition, The Arc, Arthritis Foundation, Association for Community Affiliated Plans, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, Autism Society, Autism Speaks, Autistic Self Advocacy Network, Big Cities Health Coalition, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, Catholic Health Association, Children's Hospital Association, Center for Medicare Advocacy, Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose, Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, COPD Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Family Voices, Federation of American Hospitals, HIV Medicine Association, Infectious Diseases Society of America, JDRF, Lutheran Services in America, Kaiser Permanente, March of Dimes, Medicare Rights Center, National Association of Medicaid Directors, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, National Association of School Nurses, National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship, National Down Syndrome Congress, National Health Council, National Institute for Reproductive Health, National Kidney Foundation, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Organization for Rare Diseases, Planned Parenthood, Public Health Institute, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Trust for America's Health, & WomenHeart

Sincerely,
Charity Lechuga
Milwaukie, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Porter [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:40 AM
To: gchcomments

I am against the repeal of the ACA until a humane replacement that provides ALL Americans with affordable healthcare including expanded Medicare and Medicaid. No limits, no barriers, no increased cost for preexisting conditions. I support the plan od Bernie Sanders has put forth. NO graham cassidy!

Laurie Porter

[REDACTED] West Linn Or [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Rob Kugler

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
West Linn, Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nina Poliakoff [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Thanks to the ACA I've been able to afford quality health insurance ever since I left retail to start my own business. Before the ACA I thought pre-existing conditions were only big things like cancer. But I was denied coverage for headaches, depression, and a thyroid condition. All of these are easily managed with inexpensive generic prescriptions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. How can we count ourselves among the developed nations if we're the only one without universal healthcare?

Sincerely,
Nina Poliakoff
Portland OR

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Neuschafer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:08 AM
To: gchcomments

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, Cathy Neuschafer

Lincoln City, OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: C Fastwolf [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy health care

I'm writing to you to express opposition to the GOP Graham Cassidy health care proposal. Many, many major health care organizations have spoken out against this bill, saying what it proposes would be a disaster. It would not only leave millions of people without health care, it would ravage people economically, leave all with pre-existing conditions with no coverage, and would leave our country vulnerable to epidemics, if clinics closed, and people lacked venues for disease prevention. The state where I live, Oregon, would bear the most cuts of any state in the US. We are already struggling with a large homeless population, and an opioid epidemic and Oregon does not need or deserve the health care cuts this bill guarantees.

Please please oppose it.

Cathy Camper
Portland, OR

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

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

Sincerely,
Lori Gholson
Philomath, Oregon

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sasha Borenstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My experience with affordable healthcare is that as retirees, we need the protection and support of Medicare, without it our entire savings would have been wiped out because of my husband's need for two recent and extensive surgeries. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sandra Borenstein

Ashland Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jill mackey-feist [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: jill mackey-feist
Subject: We need affordable health care in the USA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability is that I have worked in health care for over 30 years and seen those who "have or have not". Health care that relies on having a good job with benefits leaves many behind who need care. It is time for us to realize that there are better options available to take care of our citizens and to provide affordable health care for all. We shouldn't see money wasted on administrating health care...it should go towards provision of care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.
Sincerely, Jill Mackey-Feist
Corvallis, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Earl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Hello. My family and others 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,

Nancy Earl

Neotsu Oregon.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cats in the City [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the ACA

To Whom It May Concern:

The Graham-Cassidy is a terrible bill and it should not be passed. Spend your time strengthening the ACA and then pass Medicare for All legislation.

Be Well,

Shawn and Dan Liroy-Ryan

Cats in the City Specialists

Office Phone: [REDACTED]

Shawn's Desk Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]

Sellwood Location: 2036 SE Tacoma St., Portland, OR [REDACTED]

NE Tabor Location: 415 NE 80th Ave. Portland, OR [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alaina Moon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a resident in small animal internal medicine, I support my family of four on a very small income, and rely on an ACA plan for quality medical care for my family, including my two small children. Repealing the ACA would be costly and devastating to many, and it is irresponsible to suggest it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Alaina Burkard Moon, DVM

Philomath, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matt Carlson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

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

I've been unemployed for nearly six months and I don't know what I would have done without the subsidies from the ACA. I broke my thumb this summer and had to have surgery. If congress had repealed the ACA I would have been uninsured and accrued over \$5000 in medical debt. I am a struggling American in my early thirties trying to make a career transition to attain a middle class life for myself create a solid future. Being burdened by thousands of dollars of medical debt is a recipe for keeping me in permanent poverty. I hope you'll make the right decision on this.

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

Sincerely,

Matt Carlson

Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin McCormick [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I want a medicare for all system.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a 13 month old, and last year when I was pregnant I was downsized by my employer, lost my employer provided insurance, then had the only good option for insurance on the exchange fold one month after I was enrolled with it, and had to get a third insurance from a company that left my state at the end of the year. It took more than a year to sort out who would pay for what with regards to my maternity care and the birth of my little one. Now I have my state's medicaid insurance because I have not been able to find a job that allows me to make enough more than the cost of childcare that it is worth it to work at something other than raising my child. Before the ACA, I would not have been covered after being downsized, already seven months pregnant, and I would have been in more debt, so that I would probably have to be on WIC and foodstamps to survive. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Honestly, I want to see a medicare for all system put in place. I believe healthcare is a human right, and we should provide it to everyone in our country.

Sincerely, Erin
Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rose Mantle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The bill drives down coverage overall and makes healthcare unaffordable for older patients. People with pre-existing conditions would be in grave danger from lack of coverage.

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

Sincerely,

Rose Mantle
Brookings, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurelin Whitfield [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. While I have been fortunate to have health care available through an email for most of my adult life, I have taught dozens of students over the years whose families have been significantly impacted by unaffordable or unavailable health care coverage. I've had students who have missed weeks of schools to care for an injured parent because no other support was available, students who have missed school to accompany a parent to the hospital because it's the only place they can get treatment without insurance, students whose family members have gone without vital medicines because it was either pay for the medication or buy food for the family. The ACA isn't perfect, but we don't have a better alternative on the table yet and an outright appeal would negatively impact millions of people in the country, both directly and indirectly.

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

Sincerely,

Laurelin Andrade
Salem, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Devine [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: KEEP THE ACA!

My family counts on quality, affordable health care. The Graham-Cassidy Bill does not provide this!

I find it hard to believe you don't have someone in your life who will be affected by things such as pre-existing conditions influencing their insurance. I have worked with individuals with disabilities my whole life and I know the Graham-Cassidy bill will be devastating for them.

The ACA isn't perfect so I strongly advocate for a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thanks for listening,
Mary Devine
Corvallis, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MELISSA [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. In 2002 I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. I've worked hard to keep symptoms at a minimum and I'm still able to live and work a fulfilling life and contribute to my community. The fear of having a pre-existing condition and knowing that it could possibly make me uninsurable keeps me awake at night. Please don't limit my ability to obtain affordable healthcare because of a terrible disease I did not choose to have.

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

Sincerely,
Melissa Tacker
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Chace [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

All Americans rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with [Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, etc.] is... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Any congressman or senator that votes for this atrocity is responsible for the heartbreak and disaster that will fall on the heads of the most vulnerable of the American people.

Sincerely,

Ellen Chace

Eugene, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sherron Meinert [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy feedback

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have preexisting conditions and am deeply concerned that I would not be able to afford care without the ACA.

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

Sincerely,

Sherron Meinert

Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joann & Craig DeMott [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

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

My story with pre-existing conditions is that I have had breast cancer and was successfully treated with surgery and radiation. Although I am currently healthy and active, I don't know if it will return. If it does, I will need continued affordable medical insurance to help pay for my care.

I have paid for medical insurance since I first began working in the 1960's and have not missed a single payment over my lifetime of employment. I have been fortunate to have been employed since I was in my mid-teens. Others have not been as lucky, and they need our help.

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

Sincerely,

Joann DeMott

Otter Rock, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maxine Centala [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy, yes to ACA

Hello,

I rely on quality affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. If not for the ACA my sister would not have any health care that she can afford. For many years she avoided getting the care she needed because she could not afford it. Please improve the ACA. It is the best health care that many people have ever had.

Thank you.

Maxine Centala
[REDACTED]
Seal Rock, OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Loanne [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:48 PM
To: gchcomments

If this bill passes my parents, my husband and I, all with pre-existing conditions, will be unable pay for our health care if the costs increase. My father has a failing kidney and if he needs dialysis, how will he pay for it? We are scared!

Thank you John McCain for voting no.

Please come up with a **bipartisan** plan to fix the ACA.

Laurie H.
Portland, Oregon

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care

Please do not repeal the ACA; the cost is too high for our country. The current administration is not acting in our best interests, and seems intent on destroying everything we have fought for.

Thank you,

Carole Hobrock
Corvallis, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shannon Frischknecht [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy- Graham = Worst Bill EVER!

Dear finance team,

As an American, I am beyond upset about the Cassidy- Graham bill and horrified that it is moving forward without a full CBO score nor actual debates!!

WHY is this being so hastily rammed through?? I STRONGLY oppose this bill and am so disappointed by how this has been handled.

Shannon Frischknecht
Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Miller, Annalise [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal ACA

I family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a graduate student living on below-poverty wages while working and finishing my degree. I rely on insurance through my mother's provider as a child under 26. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Annalise

Corvallis, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roxanna [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Myself and my family, rely on quality, affordable healthcare and because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

My son and I depend on affordable medical care and medications to manage conditions that would otherwise result in death and my son would be unable to attend school. I rely on Medicare and benefits from the ACA due to permanent disability and chronic health problems. My family helps when they can, but they do not make nearly enough money to pay for the care we need and currently receive under the ACA.

I want to see a BIPARTISAN Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it. That would represent what the majority of Americans want and NEED.

Sincerely,

Roxanna Stapp

Ashland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Marshall at Stillpoint [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions and am nearing retirement age. I will be dependent on affordable quality health care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please work together to come up with a plan to make the ACA better, not eliminate health care for millions of Americans while making it more expensive. There are so many professional health organizations that oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, it just does not make sense.

Sincerely, Kathy Marshall

Veneta, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Bowers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am a senior citizen with limited income and rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and want you to know I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Barbara Bowers

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Notmai rheelnaim [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Medicaid is responsible for saving the life of my son's father. As a type 1 diabetic, regular doctor visits and access to insulin and testing supplies are vital to his health and well-being, yet before the Medicaid expansion, he could not afford to see a doctor or buy his vital medicines. I had to call an ambulance to have him revived from critically low blood sugar several times a year before he gained coverage. With access to healthcare, his blood sugar numbers have been much more stable, which allowed him to successfully complete a college degree and find gainful employment at a law firm. Without healthcare, I have no doubt that my family would still be on welfare, with no meaningful path to a better future. Instead, we are able to feed and care for our child, and to be contributing members of society. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Everyone deserves to have the best chance to succeed in life, and healthcare is a human right!

Sincerely,

Kate Lindstrom, Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julia Figliotti [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I recently lost my job as a creative consultant for scientific organizations due to the recent administration's threatened budget cuts to the NSF, NASA, etc. Without the ACA, I would not have been able to afford to continue my healthcare while I was in the market for a new position.

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

Sincerely,
Julia Figliotti
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzi Sutherland-Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the ACA

I am disheartened and, really, horrified that the program we need to maintain —and improve— to pay for the health care of poor and low income Americans is on the brink of being drastically reduced. The disregard for the sick and poor among us in the Graham Cassidy Bill, combined with the Republican's years of complaining about the ACA while they did nothing to create a better plan and and their claims that their proposal is a good one proves to me that they are not acting in the best interest of all American citizens.

We need to go back to the drawing board and seriously work towards a better solution for America's health care problems.

Susan Sutherland-Martin

[REDACTED]
Damascus, Oregon [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tessa Barker [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please save our healthcare

To whom it may concern:

As a non-traditional student, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am on the Oregon Health Plan, a health insurance option for low-income Oregonians. I applied for this plan in 2016, when I left my job to go back to school, to get started on a career path that could actually support me, allow me to buy a house some day, afford to have children, and save for retirement. Without OHP, I would not be able to afford healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Tessa Barker

Corvallis, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Mayer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for the Graham-Cassidy Bill hearing 9/25/17

Dear legislators:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have multiple medical issues: diabetes, kidney disease, arthritis, blood pressure and cholesterol problems and pancreatitis. I need quarterly medical tests and take daily prescription medication for my conditions. I am fortunate enough to be a resident of Oregon and to qualify for the Oregon Health Plan, and so have my basic medical needs addressed. All Americans need this. Health care should be a right, not a privilege reserved for the well-to-do.

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

Sincerely,

Laura Mayer

South Beach, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Tutmark [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:08 AM
To: gchcomments

Enough already! The Republican party holds the record for longest hard on thanks to your obsession over repealing Obamacare. It is NOT perfect, but that doesn't mean it needs to be scrapped. Grow up and start working together with the Democrats to change the parts of Obamacare that are not working or need improvement.

I have been a Registered Nurse for 10 years and know far better than ANY of you how Obamacare has helped people, not only to get insurance coverage but in driving improvement in patient safety and quality outcomes.

Block grants to the states DO NOT work. Remember Reagan dismantling mental health in exchange for block grants to states? Cities that had mental institutions (such as Salem, Oregon where I live and where Fairview was shut down) continue to have a large homeless population, many with untreated mental illness. Block grants failed. They are not enough.

For being the party that claims to be aligned with the evangelical faith, you should be ashamed of how you propose to defund insurance to our most vulnerable. That is not something Jesus would be proud of you for doing.

Stop this ridiculous obsession. Americans have OVERWHELMINGLY disapproved of every one of your attempts. Listen to the people who elected you!

Karen Tutmark, BA, BSN, RN, OCN

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Knight [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

My family depends on accessible quality health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Moving forward on Graham-Cassidy would compromise health care for far too many Americans. It is a heartless bill. Sincerely, Karen Knight, Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Eaton-Rivera [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing-September 25, 2017

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
September 25, 2017

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill as written. It would devastate many of our elder family members and disabled friends who rely on the supplements and pre-existing condition protections provided by the ACA.

I stand with Senator McCain on this issue. Convene a bipartisan approach to fixing the health care in our fine Country! Time to be the grownups.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kelly Rivera
[REDACTED]

Portland, OR [REDACTED]

----- Kelly Eaton Rivera

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kay Elliott [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:42 AM
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,
Elizabeth Kay Elliott
Newport, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DOWNER JOHNSON [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am asking you to withdraw or defeat the Graham-Cassidy measure to replace the ACA. This measure has all the flaws of earlier legislation - lack of treatment for pre-existing conditions, underfunding of Medicaid, but it comes with a new, and evil, twist. Those states which opted into Medicaid will be penalized, while those that had opted out will get some, although probably insufficient, funding. This is stealing from Peter to pay Paul. Please oppose this nightmare legislation.

Thank you,
Downer Johnson
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angela Ingermann [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA!

To Whom it May Concern,

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

My story with pre-existing conditions begins in Dec of 2017. I was 41 years old and had a stroke. No warning, no previous health issues, no known risk factors, no red flags, and a healthy, active lifestyle. Were it not for good health insurance, my family and I would have been saddled with just under \$100,000 in medical bills in the span of the 6 months. No one plans to get sick. No American should be financially devastated by a health condition. And we as a society would be better off in so many ways if every American had access to basic healthcare.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to do right by all Americans and improve the ACA.

Sincerely,

Angela Ingermann
Beaverton, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:07 PM
To: gchcomments

I OPPOSE THE GRAHAM CASSIDY BILL. I would like to see a bi-partisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Susan E. Davis Portland OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debra Wollesen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not support the Graham-Cassidy bill! Support the American people!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our story with pre-existing conditions and affordability is that both my husband and son have pre-existing conditions. Before ACA even allergies was considered pre-existing conditions that proved us out of medical insurance. Managed blood pressure and sleep apnea priced us out of medical insurance. Anyone over 50 is going to have some sort of "re-existing" condition! A casual diagnosis for my son made it impossible for him to get health coverage before ACA.

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

Sincerely,

Debra Wollesen

Redmond OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zarod [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony

Affordable healthcare needs to be a cornerstone of our democracy. Without it too many people, like my family members, face endless struggles just to keep healthy enough to keep working. Too many minimal pay jobs offer no health care. Working people are stranded without the ACA. PLEASE, PLEASE, do not repeal the ACA but instead mount a bipartisan Congressional effort to make it better. All Americans deserve affordable, quality healthcare!

Sincerely,
Frances Rominski
Portland, Oregon

Sent from [BlueMail](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: elizabeth.chenven@ [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose GrahamCassidy

Hello, I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I live in Oregon, which is projected to be negatively impacted by the redistribution this bill proposes. Additionally the ACA is what has allowed both my husband and I to create and run our two separate small businesses. It is also what helps my business thrive since I am a private practice mental health therapist. Because mental health and addiction services are protected under ACA I am able to serve a broader population while also providing for my family. Prior to ACA I was denied coverage because I had been on an antidepressant in my mid-20s and then years later my husband was denied health insurance coverage because I WAS pregnant. The company gave the reason that it couldn't risk having to insure my husband's infant child. And comparatively we were the lucky ones. It could have and has been much worse for so many other Americans. Stop playing politics and pandering to the wealthy few at the expense of a generation or two or three of Americans. Oppose Graham-Cassidy!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Chenven
Oregon (previously of Texas)

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Radosevich [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

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

Sincerely,
Lynn Radosevich
Corvallis, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: pangolina [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Healthcare is not a luxury, it is a necessity. In my area, we have a large homeless population; many of them are Veterans who lack adequate coverage for health care, including mental health services. I wonder what boost our economy would have if all these people had adequate coverage & care to be able to be productive members of society. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Alpha Wilson

Eugene, OR
✉

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Edera [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham Cassidy Bill

My son has a severe mental illness. Medicaid is crucial to his well being. Without the mental health care he receives via Medicaid, he would be unable to function, would go homeless and suffer immensely, and would cost the State a fortune. This short-sighted, politically motivated legislation must be voted down.

Regards,

Michael Edera

[REDACTED]
Portland OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patty Hodgins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Gentlemen:

If America is to be a great nation, its citizens — ALL of them — must have access to quality, affordable health care. The Graham-Cassidy bill would move us farther from achieving this goal rather than advancing it, and for this reason I vigorously oppose it.

I am a social worker whose clients have been low-income elderly and disabled persons receiving the benefit of Medicaid. If not for that support, they would have been completely without resources — in many instances, they would have lost their housing in subsidized apartments or nursing homes and had nowhere else to live. Their only option for medical care would have been hospital emergency rooms when their neglected health issues reached a crisis point. It would be a shameful day indeed if the ACA is repealed and Graham-Cassidy is approved. I hope to see a good-faith bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Patty Hodgins
Yachats, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Healthcare

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joan brown [REDACTED]
Date: September 22, 2017 at 5:55:52 PM PDT
To: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov
Subject: Healthcare

I am an RN case manager in Oregon. One of my roles is helping people get the care they need at home and if possible, get medical coverage if they have none.

Having been in this role for several years, I have been witness to the charges that the ACA has made. People who had no insurance (or care and had high risk health problems) clogged up the Emergency Room System while getting no continuity of care.

Over the years since the ACA has been implemented, we have put in place some great systems to ensure better follow up and care. We are just now starting to see positive outcomes. This is not the time to shred all the time, dollars and hours of thoughtful planning that thousands of healthcare workers and health experts have invested to improve our broken system.

The ACA was not perfect but with such opposition by a large part of our Congress and dirty media tricks, we have never been able to work together to improve it.

The insurers, the DME companies and Big Pharma all drive up costs and all are opposed to lowering their profits. What better way to cut costs than to throw the elderly out of nursing facilities (primarily financed by Medicaid Services not Medicaid insurance). However, if you cut Medicaid, you kill all of this.

My community used to have funds to send caregivers out to homes to check on and assist our vulnerable elders. This was a godsend for many of my patients. Congress already cut those funds about 2-3 yrs ago so now we have more hospital admissions for fractured hips and an entire array of other issues.

No matter how much the top GOP or even Dem donors want to just cut the funding so they can pay less taxes, this problem will not go away.

Every civilized world budgets to take care of its people. If we don't budget for this, it is easy to say that it is just too costly.

I spend another part of my job trying to figure out how to get people the medications that they need. Why is it that their physician can order a medication that came out 20-40 years ago and was once a \$4 co-pay but suddenly it is \$300 and the person's co-pay is \$150. People on a fixed income cannot afford this and many go without and end up with high cost admissions that cost us all in the end.

The places to look to cut costs are not by killing people (talk about your death panels). Why is this term not being used in this fight??

We need to fund these issues and not the multi billionaires' bank account and those of our slimy legislators.

If this bill passes, there will be a breakdown within society like we have never seen. If that is their goal, it will be accomplished.

I am so ashamed of my country. When I was younger, I felt that those in need had a chance in this country. Now we are living in a cold, greedy, corrupt country that the rest of the world is looking at in horror.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Dale Cannon

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Monmouth, Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Barbara Amell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Portland, Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

John Gross
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Wherley [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Please stop trying to take benefits from people of limited means who are just keeping their heads above water so you can bestow greater wealth on the already super wealthy.

Fix the flaws in Obamacare instead.

Michael Wherley

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ian Shelley [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Ian Shelley
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra L Zeigler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Do you jobs to protect ALL Americans by providing affordable health care. Giving more huge tax cuts to the already rich and the corporations that already pay no taxes is inhumane. Fix the tax loops on these insanely rich people and corporations to provide more money to help the people of the USA. Your system is designed to enhance the millionaires' tax evasions by placing an unfair burden on "we the people". That is not fair or just or humane. Stand up for "we the people" if you want us to stand up for you!

Sandra L Zeigler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Goodwin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Again? This is the worst one yet!

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

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

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

Karen Goodwin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Baehr [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submittal for Public Testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

My story with pre-existing conditions and the need for affordability is why I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Linda Baehr
Salem, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Simon [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Michael Simon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eileen Ordway <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

How dare Senate Republicans give tax-breaks to an industry raking in profits because of an individual's medical conditions affecting them. Senate Republicans are unfit to govern because of seeking to fulfill campaign promises made to donors 7 years ago. Residents of our country need to end this dysfunctional pattern of Senate Republicans governing our country's residents from the past instead of the present. It's time for Senate Republicans desperate to fulfill campaign promises made 7 years ago go to the unemployment line where there donors aren't hanging out.

Eileen Ordway
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ric Bernat <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Ric Bernat
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Ebbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cost benefits Graham-Cassidy bill

Expires: Saturday, October 14, 2017 3:00 AM

Dear members of the Finance Committee of the Senate

As a significant portion of the duties of this committee related to Medicaid/Care funding, I strongly propose that you look into the bipartisan efforts of Alexander and Cantwell et al to make reasoned decisions to make healthcare more affordable.

Graham-Cassidy is being rushed through without a CBO score, just to meet a deadline and to unlock the pockets of the Koch Brothers, who are not - last time I checked - powerful members of Congress.

American voters are not alone in recognizing this is a bad bill. Organizations too numerous to list of doctors, nurses, care givers, hospitals and virtually all medical fields are against this bill. Health insurance companies are prepared to leave the market or make staggering premium increases because of uncertainty in compensation. State Governors do not want the responsibility of selecting who may qualify for a limited insurance plan.

Graham-Cassidy in short appears to be an effort to solicit bribery on the backs of 32 million Americans who won't be able to afford health care insurance if it passes. \$2000 a month may be peanuts to you, but its most of my income, and more than most people in my county have.

Graham Cassidy may line some pockets, but it will destroy small businesses that rely on the low income and rural Americans who provide your food and service work, and will cause inflation on an Italian scale if it passes.

You may not care if we live or die - Graham and Cassidy don't seem to - half the Senate doesn't seem to. But if you kill the goose... no golden eggs for anyone. Not even Trump or Senators who receive Koch donations. Nursing home clients rely heavily on Medicaid after having spent life savings down. Care for the elderly will certainly suffer under the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I'm sure no one on the committee would accept this. You're better than THAT.

Therefore, don't recommend or pass Graham-Cassidy. It's not the last car in town, it's the last car that locks out 100% of the duly elected Senate from doing its job for America. Do look at Alexander/Cantwell or any other bipartisan effort. Look at Medicare for All which costs 1/3 of the current system and saves households \$4000/year, according to implementation elsewhere and other estimates. But for god's sake... don't pass a publicity stunt that will harm Americans, just to give some people access to the cookie jar.

Thank you.

David Ebbert
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Michael Kane
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Thelander [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Donna Thelander

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Duncan Baruch
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Ron Cavin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phoebe quillian [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Phoebe quillian
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Insurance - Graham Cassidy bill testimony

I oppose the suggested changes to the ACA health care rules. My adult son has epilepsy, my husband has a rare blood clotting disease, and I have had breast cancer. All three of us would be ineligible for health insurance if there is any change to pre-existing conditions clauses.

Right now, the availability of insurance is making it possible for us to survive. Without it, we would be bankrupt in a matter of months.

Please leave the health insurance structure as it is.

And leave funding in place for Planned Parenthood - eliminating that funding would be the perfect way to assure that you breed a new generation of unwanted offspring, who will cause way more problems than any number of immigrants coming over the border.

Sincerely,

Kerry McFall
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Merle Wallis [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Merle Wallis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: marguery lee zucker [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

marguery lee zucker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

John Murphy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Annabelle Herbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Annabelle Herbert
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: m. lee zucker [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

m. lee zucker
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Gray [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my serious opposition to the Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill. I am 62 years old, so have 3 more years until I qualify for Medicare. I have relied upon the Affordable Care Act for several years to make my healthcare coverage affordable, and I am only one of many MILLIONS in this situation. Before the ACA, my premiums increased by anywhere from 15 to 30% EACH YEAR, and I had to keep backing down on my coverage; that is, I had to choose a new plan with less coverage than the last, just to be able to afford the premiums. Obviously, the ACA has not solved that problem, but at least it has reduced the scale of the increases, partly by means of the premium tax credit subsidy. Just as important, it has mandated that certain essential services remain in each plan, so there is a floor, below which plans cannot drop. From what I understand, the current bill would eliminate the mandate for essential services. And it would eliminate the subsidies I and so many others have relied upon to make premiums affordable. Unacceptable.

I happen to be fairly healthy, but I worry a lot about those others who are not so lucky, who have pre-existing conditions that, under the new bill, would be denied coverage, or would be faced with much higher rates. I worry about all the low income people who would be denied coverage under a vastly scaled-back Medicaid. I absolutely DO NOT BELIEVE that the majority of those on Medicaid are there through their own laziness; there are so many calamities that can befall a person through no fault of their own, to impoverish them. And the world is full of people born into poverty, with all its built-in disadvantages that tend to keep a person in poverty. It is our moral duty to provide basic services and support to those who cannot do so themselves, no matter if it costs us. And Medicaid is one of those basic services, and we cannot deny it to those in need. And speaking of healthcare for those in poverty, Planned Parenthood is one of the most important providers of that sort of thing. It does SO MUCH MORE than offer abortions. Although its services are not restricted to those with very low incomes, it is used very heavily by such people. But one good way to attack poverty is to offer FAMILY PLANNING, so family size remains within the range of what the parents can support. Bingo. Exactly what Planned Parenthood excels at.

It is incumbent upon us as human beings to be the best we can possibly be, and a critical part of that is to help those less fortunate than us. The Graham-Cassidy bill would NOT take us in that direction. Instead, it would abandon those who struggle with poverty, and lend all sorts of support to the wealthy and large corporations (including medical device makers) that DO NOT NEED OUR HELP. I am not a Christian, but this bill and this approach is SO UN-CHRISTIAN. What are you members of Congress thinking?? You can be so much better than that.

Please KILL THIS BILL, and then start working, in a bi-partisan way, for once, to deliver true healthcare reform in the form of Medicare for All.

Sincerely,

William Gray

Cave Junction, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare is the cruelest yet. It would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry hidden in this bill!

This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

Reject Graham-Cassidy and protect the healthcare of millions of Americans! Ensure that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes!

sara deutsch
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Randy Davis [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Randy Davis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

This 3rd attempt to rob us of health care is despicable and selfish ! Legislators could and SHOULD be spending their time and energy on fixing the problems in ObamaCare (which are totally caused by Insurance Companies GREED) instead of trying to go back to the complete mercy of the Health Insurance INDUSTRY which is in our worst interests and a clear majority of the American people do not want to happen!

Linda Stead

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fred Handloser <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Fred Handloser
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bren2915 . [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Dangerous Graham-Cassidy Bill

My niece and her family live in Des Moines, Iowa and I would like to call attention to Senators Grassley and Earnst in particular and of course the entire legislative team in Iowa.

They are a health conscious young couple who signed on with their own well known family business in Des Moines. They are Republicans. They established themselves educationally and professionally prior to starting a family. Last April they had their baby after a healthy pregnancy and a typical birth. The baby tested positive for cystic fibrosis, a life long preexisting condition.

The conditions of the ACA make it clear this child and her family will not be punished or threatened by outrageous costs and premiums under the guise of preexisting conditions.

The Graham Cassidy bill creates NO such safety net. It is a complete fog as to who gets to keep ACA, (a bribe to Alaska?), who will be protected under the preexisting conditions clause and who will have no protections. It is a bad bill that puts all Americans at risk. It hacks away at medicaid funding for people with disabilities and other health conditions, . that includes our beloved new infant member of our family.

I am sharing the story of one tiny family member. We have other people in our family with preexisting conditions. I remember well, before the ACA, how insurance companies treated people. They collected premiums for decades until an individual had a serious health concern and then they were dropped and denied coverage for a preexisting condition. This was well documented on programs such as 60 MINUTES, DATELINE

etc. Graham Cassidy will take us back in time to that horrible time in the history of America.

Every American I have talked to on this topic want a bipartisan, genuinely cooperative approach to health care. We want to fix the ACA to the way it was intended and back to the way it worked as RomenyCare. That is a given in the conversations I have had on this topic. The other last and final comment in these conversations is that it is way past time for Americans to create a MEDICARE FOR ALL plan.

I know Republicans continue to sign the Grover Nordquist Pledge and I know that is the hammer hanging over their heads. They are threatened financially if they don't toe the Grover Nordquist line. They have no business signing a pledge to him. Elected officials of any party work for American people and it is about time they start working for us and not their party.

Berma Matteson, Independent Voter
Oregon
Senators Merkley, Wyden
Congressman DeFazio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: janna piper [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

janna piper
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Honora-Bright Aere [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Honora-Bright Aere
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jeriene Walberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Nori La Rue
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Noreen Arnold [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Noreen Arnold
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Kauffman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Gail Kauffman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dennis Adams [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE: ACA repeal bill

Please consider my adult son when you discuss cutting supports for him to live in the community. My wife and I are both 71 years old, and were counting on Medicaid/ACA support to allow him to continue to live in his own home when we are no longer able to provide his supports. This use of Medicaid funding is cost-effective compared to group home supports and would allow him to continue to live close to his other family members.

Please continue the creative and cost-effective ways that the Affordable Care Act funds are currently being used. Many lives depend on this.

Dennis Adams
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Van Raden [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save The ACA, Say No to Graham-Cassidy!

My whole life I have been healthy. The worst that has ever happened to me was a sprained ankle and having to have my wisdom teeth removed. Until July 25th, 2017. That's the day I, a 32 year old healthy woman with no known genetic risk-factors, was diagnosed with stage II breast cancer.

From the day I was diagnosed (July 25, 2017) to the day I'm writing to you (September 21, 2017) my insurance has been billed \$107,020.47 for my care, including imaging, lab work, surgery and chemotherapy. My chemotherapy alone has, so far, cost about \$27,000 and \$24,000 and tomorrow I go in for my third of six rounds of chemotherapy. In other words, chemotherapy alone will cost about \$150,000. That does not include the double mastectomy that is still coming up, radiation after that, follow up appointments with my doctors for the next 5 years, and any treatments I will have to undergo if my cancer returns.

I tell you all of this knowing that I'm one of the lucky ones who caught it early; one of the lucky ones who has a good prognosis; one of the lucky ones who has employer-based healthcare coverage. What if I lose my job and my coverage? What am I supposed to do then? What are the people who can't work supposed to do when the Republicans in congress end the ACA and the "block grants" run out?

Pre-existing conditions protections are vital to people's lives. Lifetime caps on spending by insurance companies are heinous. **Health insurance should not be a for-profit business**; executives making tens of millions of dollars a year should not be considering their company's quarterly profit margins when people's lives are literally on the line.

Please don't pass Graham-Cassidy. Please don't put people's lives up against profits margins. Please protect people's constitutionally guaranteed right to their lives.

-Karen Van Raden
Beaverton, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Taylor-Trow [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To Senate Finance Committee:

As a US citizen and a constituent of the senators from Ohio, I would like to share my thoughts on efforts to repeal the ACA.

(1) I understand that Republicans feel that government should not pay for healthcare. It is true however, in this day and age, that government must step in and help. The physical health of our people underlies the economic health of our country. That's just practical.

The strength of the middle class is at stake here. We need a strong, healthy, happy and contributing middle class. That is what always made America great.

(2) In my personal case, both my husband and daughter have catastrophic illnesses. Medicaid, along with their Medicare and supplemental policies which I purchase, are essential to their care. Without, they couldn't live.

I, on the other hand, do not qualify for insurance. Our income puts me just shy of Ohio's medicaid expansion. So while my husband and daughter receive necessary care, I have had to pay out of pocket. I am their caregiver, for which I receive no pay and no benefits. We will be filing for bankruptcy within the next few days, because I had an emergency surgery which wiped out our savings.

Before our daughter was born with autism, and before my husband's stroke, we both worked fulltime and we paid our taxes. We are middle class, with all the values that entails. I still work hard to keep my husband out of a nursing home and my daughter out of state care, because I believe in taking care of my own.

What I do saves the government thousands of dollars each month. I believe it is my responsibility to care for them, and to provide them with Medicomp policies out of pocket.

We are doing the best we can, and I am contributing all I can do care for my family. This is what personal responsibility looks like.

If you take away our Medicaid, you will undermine all of my hard work and my family's struggle to survive and succeed.

The ACA needs revisions. It is not the perfect solution. I was left out in this iteration of the ACA. But a bipartisan reworking of a national healthcare policy is crucial to America's role as one of the world's civilized countries. We are falling behind, as a people, and personally, as a family unit.

Please consider those of us out here who do work hard, but who do need what government supports we now receive.

Thank you for listening,

Patricia Taylor Trow
Ravenna, Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My story

I'm a practicing Cardiologist. I was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer 1 year ago. It was not caused by any bad habits etc. Because of the rules set by the ACA, I was able to get proper and timely treatment with out having to take out a second mortgage!

Nobody plans for or prepares for a diagnosis of cancer.

I work hard , pay taxes , serve the poor etc.

With your new bill to repeal ACA , I could lose my coverage due to my pre existing condition.

Millions of good people have a similar story to mine.

This is completely heartless.

In this country we help each other and lift each other up. We Never harm one group of people just to benefit another group.

I implore you to listen to your conscience and put politics aside and not push this bill through. Work with your colleagues and come up with a bipartisan plan that helps All Americans!! Thank you.

Santosh

Santosh Menon , MD, FACC, FHSA

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

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: J Ward [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Lucille - Stroke at birth

My youngest daughter Lucille had a stroke at birth. Through no fault of her own, she was born with a pre-existing condition. She is now labeled Cerebral Palsy due to her brain injury, and has been undergoing therapy since the diagnosis at age 1 (she will turn 4 in January).

She is a sweet, loving, feisty little girl who will be unable to afford health insurance, and therefore coverage, if GHC is enacted. I don't buy for a SECOND that her home state (Ohio) will be able to manage the cuts in federal funding it will receive without allowing insurance companies to raise premiums to insane prices for people like her.

My wife and I have lived the american dream. We are both the first in our family to graduate from a 4 year college with degrees. We both have Masters degrees. We have dedicated our lives to helping our young people through education (I teach Science, my wife teaches Special Education). To say we are enraged and disappointed in this proposed bill is an understatement.

If this passes, the american dream is dead for my daughter Lucy. If we move her to any number of countries outside of the United States her life would improve significantly if this bill is passed. A vote for this bill is a vote to make the United States a second rate country, and a vote against the best interests of citizens, especially those like Lucy.



I have included a picture of her, at therapy, therapy that she won't be able to afford if you pass this bill, because I want you to see her before voting that her life is worth adding another zero to some billionaire's bank account.

-Jeremy Ward
Cincinnati, Ohio

--
"My greatest skill in life has been to want but little"
- Henry David Thoreau

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: BARBARA KELLEY [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony EMail

Dear Senators-

Let me tell you about my Firstborn kid, who just turned 18. She came into the world a dynamo, and we spent years holding on for dear life as she plowed through her childhood, learning everything she could grasp and experiencing life to the fullest. She's a Junior in college, with a self-designed major. She is currently taking 17 hours, has an on campus job, an internship, she volunteers as a historical reenactor, and has her own historical reenactment schedule for her own enjoyment. On top of this she is a Venturing Scout through BSA, and is currently serving on the steering committee to start a Venturing Officers Association in our Council. With all of this she is recovering from surgery this past summer, and now has 6 pins in her hip. She spent nearly all of last school year in a wheelchair with a failing hip, and she will get the other hip surgically altered next summer. After the hips are complete she will have her legs straightened, and after years, and three more major surgeries, they will be able to operate on her left knee, which actually hurts the most at this point in time. I can tell you about her condition, but I would rather tell you that she is amazing and it's a very hidden disability (when she doesn't need the chair).

She's obviously a contributing member of society, she's 18 and a Junior, and has a full ride to college. She gives of her time and resources, and she's a stellar student. And SHE WILL ABSOLUTELY MAX OUT OF HER INSURANCE BENEFITS BY THE AGE OF 25 IF YOU ENACT LIFETIME MAXIMUMS.

I urge you to think about what you are doing, it's detrimental not just to my kid, but to the entire country. A healthy workforce is a productive workforce. We serve no one that needs serving with the measure in Graham Cassidy.

Respectfully,
Barbara Kelley
Montgomery, Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kay fooce <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy and any other crazy plan that takes health care coverage away from any of us! It is nothing but YET ANOTHER attempt at robbing from the little guy to give tax breaks to the richest people in America.

Time to shut down Republican attempts at giving our money to billionaires! This bill will HURT Americans, and it will even KILL Americans!

~Kay Fooce
Sabina, Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Neil Valentine [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Neil Valentine
Father of a rare disease child.

Mr. Neil Valentine
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jerry Kanney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Jerry Kanney
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Cowley-Durst [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:40 PM
To: gchcomments

Healthcare cannot be rushed and people must not be short-changed just because there is a deadline (Sept 30) for using a simple majority to pass the bill.

I am a middle-class, educated senior now living in a beautiful "edge of Appalachia" area of Ohio. But it is not all beautiful. I see opioid addiction, closing of hospitals, lack of good healthcare providers, poverty and childhood obesity everywhere I look. Come visit and see how most people live here and you wouldn't be able to turn your backs on them, nay, do them the harm this bill will cause.

I was eligible for Medicare just as the ACA was made available. As a small business owner (management consultant) with no full-time employees other than myself, my husband and I were on catastrophic insurance. No routine visits were paid for by the insurance company because we simply could not afford the best plans. Worse, some very minor previous conditions for both us (for instance, in my case, arthritis in my neck, scar tissue on a lung, one episode of adult asthma) meant the insurance company would not cover anything to do with my spine or lungs and wrote a rider saying so. WHAT?!!!

During the 12 years that we were not on an employer health-care plan (my husband had retired and I was running my own business), we trembled with worry when we thought of possibly getting seriously ill. Thank goodness we did not. And, now age 68, we are still healthy, have had no major diseases or health issues! And we no longer worry. We've both worked some great professional jobs, but Medicare is by far the best health insurance we have had. It's not cheap for the full coverage we buy, but it is much less than anything we looked at before the ACA arrived.

Our country should be moving toward single-payer / Medicare for all. I wouldn't say that healthcare is a "right," but it's certainly is not a privilege. What it is in my mind is the unquestionable benefit of living in a prosperous, humane, caring, social system under a humane, caring and democratic government. We wrote Japan's constitution after WWII and we gave universal healthcare to them -- why can't we do the same for ourselves?!!

The GC healthcare bill combines the worst of the previous 3 (4?) bills that Republicans have put forth. It is an awful bill and the organizations that have come out against it are wide and varied. To vote for it (or any bill) without conducting regular order and getting the proper information from the CBO is doubly (nay, exponentially) appalling.

Vote No!

--

Barbara Cowley-Durst
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Seeberger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham- Heller-Johnson Bill

I am strongly opposed to this iteration of "Repeal & Replace." I live in Ohio and have been contacting Senator Portman daily to vote **NO**. This bill is the GOP attempt to fund any tax cuts/reform that they hope to pass (good luck with that). The Koch brothers' hold over the GOP is widely known and is part of our descent into something that is not a democratic republic.

I am part of the individual market and I'm 60 years old, so I have pre-existing conditions. Frankly, I think it's a good idea to stop forcing employers to provide health insurance for employees. I am also a lawyer and have a basic understanding of how insurance markets work. Everyone must participate. Buying fire insurance for a house as it is catching fire is not how fire insurance works. Essential health benefits lower everyone's medical costs through preventive care instead of forcing people to go to the ER. Block grants for states is a false premise once you allow states to waive out of providing insurance that actually covers something. The block grant idea will force states to re-invent the wheel and make health care insurance worse and not better. States will provide junk insurance and you know it. Stabilize the existing ACA.

How is it that the US is the only first world country with such lousy health care coverage?

Sue Seeberger
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Martha Sattler [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I have a 21 year old daughter with developmental delay and cerebral palsy. I am urgently asking that Graham-Cassidy not be supported as the ground that has been gained with help for those with special needs could be lost forever. The vulnerability of this population with disabilities is real and a nation's greatness is only as great as our care and compassion for the least among us.

Martha in Perrysburg, Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Swensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

- Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
- Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
- Full Name (of individual or organization) - Conrad and Kathy Swensen
- Address - [REDACTED]

We are writing to voice our dismay over the possibility that the U.S. Senate will be voting on the Graham-Cassidy bill in the very near future. As a licensed clinical counselor who works at a local community mental health center, I (Kathy) see first-hand how people who lack a very strong support system and suffer from mental illness and/or addiction must struggle to survive. Destroying Medicaid as we know it, which this bill threatens to do, would have dire consequences, not only for my clients but for the rest of society as well.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is also a potential death sentence for any American who is currently sick or has been diagnosed with a pre-existing condition. In this way, the Graham-Cassidy bill appears to be even worse than the ill-fated BRCA. No wonder Mitch McConnell wants to push it through the Senate before the comprehensive CBO analysis is complete!

We certainly hope that the Senate will not vote on this disastrous bill. If it does, we are counting on you to think of your constituents and how your vote will impact their lives. Like you, we are very fortunate to have excellent health care benefits. However, so many people in our country are already struggling day-to-day just to “get by.” It is simply morally wrong to deny health care coverage for these neighbors who are not as fortunate as we have been.

Your constituents have entrusted you with their well-being. Since the election, many of us feel that we have been forgotten and abandoned by many of our leaders' apparent interest in serving the very rich at the expense of the working poor. We encourage you to represent the people you have sworn to serve over your party's agenda or other special interest groups.

The best solutions always come when lawmakers are willing to “reach across the aisle” to work together. That is what we expect from our elected officials. That, more than anything, will earn our support!

Respectfully submitted by Conrad and Kathy Swensen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I am opposed to the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill, as are all 50 state Medicaid directors and most major insurers. Pay attention to the experts and your constituents! Vote NO!

Kathy McCoy
Ada, Ohio

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laveta Bowen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: No on Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Senators:

I am from Westerville, OH, zip [REDACTED]

Under Graham Cassidy healthcare, Ohio will lose 9 billion dollars in funds and according to governor Kasich, 400k to 500k people will lose their healthcare coverage. With the loss of medicare extension, many poor, elderly and disabled people will not be able to afford basic health care and many will die from lack of treatment of chronic diseases.

I see two groups who want this healthcare bill passed. 1 - Politicians who have received funding from the hundreds of millions spent over the last few years by Koch and friends. The Koch & friends ideology is radical libertarian and their ultimate agenda is to eliminate ALL tax funded social programs including Social Security, medicare, unemployment, disability and even repeal minimum wage laws. Destroying tax-funded healthcare is step one. The Koch & friends donors are overdue for their payback and as you know pressuring the Senators to do their bidding.

2. The second group that wants to repeal obamacare is the racially tinged group that voted for Trump. They don't see that they will be seriously worse off by the passage of this bill. They believe this is part of MAGA.

The Republican Party has been radicalized toward libertarianism by the Koch & friends sacksful of money and dressing of rabid self interest in an attractive package. I know that also, politicians heel to the threats of funding competitors in primaries. It's not really the old Republican Party anymore. We have Democrats and we have the Kochtopus.

Koch & friends' politicians think it is good to crush vulnerable people under the wheels of radical libertarianism at the same time making the rich richer, but to help vulnerable people to have healthcare is 'socialist'.

I know the Koch & friends donors want their payback now, but stand up for the people, not the ultra-rich Koch & friends donors.

Vote down the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laveta Bowen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Senators:

I am from Westerville, OH, zip [REDACTED]



Under Graham Cassidy healthcare, Ohio will lose 9 billion dollars in funds and according to governor Kasich, 400k to 500k people will lose their healthcare coverage. With the loss of medicare extension, many poor, elderly and disabled people will not be able to afford basic health care and many will die from lack of treatment of chronic diseases.

I see two groups who want this healthcare bill passed. 1 - Politicians who have received funding from the hundreds of millions spent over the last few years by Koch and friends. The Koch & friends ideology is radical libertarian and their ultimate agenda is to eliminate ALL tax funded social programs including Social Security, medicare, unemployment, disability and even repeal minimum wage laws. Destroying tax-funded healthcare is step one. The Koch & friends donors are overdue for their payback and as you know pressuring the Senators to do their bidding.

2. The second group that wants to repeal obamacare is the racially tinged group that voted for Trump. They don't see that they will be seriously worse off by the passage of this bill. They believe this is part of MAGA.

The Republican Party has been radicalized toward libertarianism by the Koch & friends sacksful of money and dressing of rabid self interest in an attractive package. I know that also, politicians heel to the threats of funding competitors in primaries. It's not really the old Republican Party anymore. We have Democrats and we have the Kochtopus.

Koch & friends' politicians think it is good to crush vulnerable people under the wheels of radical libertarianism at the same time making the rich richer, but to help vulnerable people to have healthcare is 'socialist'.

I know the Koch & friends donors want their payback now, but stand up for the people, not the ultra-rich Koch & friends donors.

Vote down the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JERRY SELF [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill!

Please vote no on this disastrous bill! You cannot kick millions off of healthcare! People with pre-conditions won't be able to afford it! Small hospitals will close! Please work with Democrats on a bipartisan bill! You pass this bill & all you republicans will be voted out! Please, please, please don't pass this evil bill! If you are really pro life there is no way you would pass this bill, because it is going to kill people! Helen Self, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Schulz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Good Morning,

Once again the American public has been put in the awkward position of being lied to by the officials we voted for.

The information we've been provided regarding Graham-Cassidy is all over the map. *Someone isn't telling the truth.*

And how unfair it is that our only true option is to believe the representatives of the party with which we identify.

We trust them because their beliefs most align with ours . . . that's why we elected them as our representatives.

I trust Senator Brown OH so I must request that both he and Sen Portman OH vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Sharon Schulz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Molly Shaw <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Finance Committee,

The new healthcare bill is very concerning and is not an improvement over the past versions. What is perhaps most concerning is that the Senate would vote on it before the CBO report is ready. That is extremely irresponsible, especially because they would be doing it just to take advantage of the reconciliation deadline and to be able to pass it with fewer votes. This is a shady practice and totally disregards and disrespects what is best for the American people. As far as what is known about the bill, the cuts to Medicaid are quite troubling. As an employee of Cincinnati Children's Hospital, I see the faces of the youngest Medicaid dependents every day, and I don't know what would become of them without it. It is our responsibility to protect them so that they can grow up to lead healthy and productive lives. I urge you to consider these issues and not pass this bill.

Thank you,
Molly Shaw
Cincinnati, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: cindi mayer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am from Ohio where there is a huge opioid crisis and also a large aging population, which I belong to. I am 58 years old and am worried sick about what kind of healthcare will be available to me if this awful bill passes.

I am also extremely concerned about how we can battle drug addiction if the funding for it is slashed, as it is in this new bill. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE don't allow this bill to pass! It would be devastating to so many people and to so many worthwhile programs. This bill does not represent American values AT ALL.

Thank you.

Cynthia J Mayer Passarelli
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Traci [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please do not kill us.

Thank you.

Traci
Our honor defend, we will fight 'til the end for Ohio.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Guest [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Knox, Jason (Portman)
Subject: Insurance Industry Opposes Graham-Cassidy Bill

This ideological mess will kill people. It must NOT pass!!!

From Blue Cross Blue Shield

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

Until now, the insurance industry had been quiet on the Graham-Cassidy legislation. But the Blue Cross association on AHIP said Graham-Cassidy violates its principles for health reform.

"Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson ... would have real consequences on consumers and patients by further destabilizing the individual market," AHIP said in a letter to Senate leaders. AHIP represents Centene, Molina Healthcare, Oscar Health, Anthem and other health insurers"

Kathy Guest

South Bloomingville, OH [REDACTED]

[Insurance Industry Comes Out Against Graham-Cassidy Trumpcare Bill.](#)



Insurance Industry Comes Out Against Graham-Cassidy Trumpcare Bill

By Bruce Japsen

The nation's Blue Cross Blue Shield plans voiced opposition to the Senate legislation that would overhaul th...

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vickie Holley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Our story re Graham-Cassidy

Once upon a time, my husband & I were happy, gainfully employed, paying our own way, paying taxes, all things related to life. My husband was a boiler operator at a State of OH MRDD facility, got laid off. Instead of uprooting our boys who were in school, and moving to work in another State of OH facility, he got CDL, went to work hauling coal. He was grossly overloaded daily, complained to his bosses but was told if he didn't like it to go on home. So about 4 months into this job, he rolled his truck. I will leave numerous intervening factors out, but he was eventually diagnosed with traumatic brain injury, cervical disc herniations requiring surgery, other less serious conditions. ELEVEN YEARS LATER, his doctor got an MRI of his neck, told him he couldn't go to work the next day, or ever again, because if he got hurt again, it could kill him. After fighting OH BWC for 5 more years, he was granted permanent total disability & medical to cover his injuries. I was working and had insurance to cover his medical issues so it was ok.

I was an ICU RN. Started having sciatica, figured it was from lifting associated with my job. Nope. I had a hen egg sized schwannoma at L5-S1, requiring surgery. I went back to work before my sick leave was up. About 7 yrs elapsed until I started having pain again. Long story short, I have cervical spinal canal narrowing at C5-6, diffuse degenerative disc disease, disc herniation L4-5, L5-S1, nerve root dilation L5, hemangiomas 2 lumbar vertebrae. Have been off work, drawing Social Security Disability since 2013, Medicare since '15.

We both had OH Medicaid until May '17 when mine was stopped. Thank God my husband still gets it because he was diagnosed with bladder cancer in June of this year. If he didn't get Medicaid, he couldn't get treatment. He also is diabetic, has chronic atrial fibrillation, COPD, CHF, Obstructive sleep apnea, uses a CPAP. We would never be able to afford his medications without Medicaid.

Over the course of time, with the level of pain I've had, I took ibuprofen daily which has resulted in being diagnosed with Stage 3 Chronic Kidney Disease.

So, you see, not everyone who has Medicaid is lazy & shiftless, wanting a free ride. Believe me, we would both rather still be working. I am 61, my husband is 57.

I'm sorry this is lengthy but I tried to convey our gradual decline from what we considered normal lives to what we've become. We feel like we're just waiting to die.

Vickie & Danny Holley
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Karen E Mail
Subject: Public comment on Graham Cassidy Bill

For your consideration.

My name is Karen DiGregorio and I am a Speech Language Pathologist from Ohio.. I currently provide Speech Language Pathology Home Health Care Services and have provided for the last 10 years. The people I serve are primarily the aged, recovering from strokes traumatic brain injuries and cancer. I also provide services to many more of the aged who are in various stages of Alzheimer's Disease. My patients generally have Medicare insurance for the treatment.. More often than not, they are on the path to increased caregiving needs provided by a skilled nursing facility. Many of them have indeed been placed in such a facility for their needs exceed caregiver skill and availability. They want to stay at home for as long as possible, surrounded by family, with family care. I have not had one patient able to afford the private pay cost of a long term facility: they exhaust their money, sell their home and qualify for Medicaid. Most all have DNR orders and they wait for death since assisted suicide is against the law.

Here's a real example of Mary and her family's circumstances. Mary had been living in her own home as her memory was slowly getting worse. Her son, daughter in law and granddaughter had been providing increasing supports over the last 10 years: before she fell, her son who had cardiac problems of his own, was coming daily first thing in the morning before work, during his lunch break and after work to make sure she had meals. Other family members were doing shopping, cleaning the house, doing laundry, taking her to MD appointments daily and weekly despite having jobs. When she fell, her memory Loss decreased significantly with severe behavior outbursts. She was up all night screaming, didn't recognize family, didn't know who she was, became incontinent, couldn't swallow well: she needed 24 hour care that available family couldn't provide or afford (although they tried for months to provide it). Family POA sold house, she moved to Skilled nursing facility and paid privately until funds decimated and she was eligible for Medicaid coverage. A Medicaid home care waiver may have helped earlier in this story however she was on a long list.

This was Mary's story however it could also be many of my patients stories. People are living longer, dementia is ravaging them. And the Graham-Cassidy Bill cuts Medicaid funding....what will they do? Who will take care of them? Will we see them on the streets like the homeless people with mental illness? I am not sure this is the soul of America. Before working with the aged, I spent 25 years working with people with disabilities whose only hope after family care was supported living funded by their earnings and Medicaid Waivers. I shudder to think of what will happen to them should this bill be passed.

We as a country are better than this bill.

Karen DiGregorio
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gang Nolan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do Not Pass GrahamCaasidy

This bill WILL strip away pre-existing conditions, return yearly & lifetime limits, and will result in the death of millions of Americans due to loss of coverage. The GOP needs to stop this careless behavior!

Do NOT pass this bill!!

Scott Nolan
Brecksville, Ohio

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Saltzman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Hello Senate Finance Committee —

My name is Judith Saltzman, and I live at [REDACTED] My home phone is 440-349-0105. I am a retired special education attorney, and thank the Lord that I have Medicaid.

Please do not support Graham Cassidy. Ohio depends heavily on the Medicaid expansion options provided for under Obamacare. This bill not only repeals them, but it also block grants Medicaid, imposing serious cuts on disabled children and adults. As a retired special education attorney, I know that Medicaid is a crucial program for our schools — providing services to heavy needs children that local school districts cannot afford under the special education budgets. Why take this away? Kids will die — or will end up needing to go into nursing homes. Same thing for the elderly. We were all shocked by the news of elderly folks in nursing homes sitting waist deep in water after Harvey, or dying from the heat after Irma hit Florida. We have to care for the elderly all the time — not just when something outrageous hits the news. And we have to care for the elderly in a proactive way — that keeps them out of nursing homes. I read that this bill would cut funding for Medicaid by about \$175 billion between 2020 and 2026. Ohio will lose billions. Do you think you can do this and still take care of our grandparents?

I also think this bill plays games with the idea of pre-existing condition protections. The American people are not stupid. We know that by removing cost controls on what insurance companies can charge people with pre-existing conditions, the whole idea of pre-existing conditions protection goes out the window. People will not be able to afford insurance. And then the bill takes away market place subsidies on top of this? Really, don't insult our intelligence. This bill is out to hurt people.

Splitting Obamacare funds between 50 states is a phenomenally bad idea. Without centralization, we will have fifty different plans in different states. Imagine the increase in administrative and billing costs that this will lead to. So much duplication of effort will mean that funds for medical care will be diverted to pay for administrative staff. Who, by the way, will end up totally confused as to what rule applies to what out of state case. Bad idea.

I am also extremely appalled by the defunding of planned parenthood. Nobody likes abortion, but the family planning services of PPA — which run deep and wide in our country, are the best protection we have against abortion. You should not legislate based upon hate or religious fervor, however well-intentioned. You must do what addresses the diverse needs of the country as a whole.

It is shameful that Congress will not take a bi-partisan approach. Ryan's refusal to allow bi-partisan negotiations to proceed in the house is shameful — and a derogation of his duty. It sounded like they were getting somewhere. To think that without a bi-partisan approach, a careful financial analysis, and time to deliberate and understand impacts, Congress is prepared to gamble with our health care system — really it's appalling. Every other major country ensures that their citizens enjoy health care as a right. The US is the outlier. And the process Congress is following makes fools of Congress. Health care is complex, and by seriously considering this bill, the current Congress just looks like it is throwing its hands up in the air and admitting it's too hard.

I ask you to do the right thing and kill this bill.

Judith Saltzman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sherlockholmes221bbakerst4 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

To the Senate,

Please do not support legislation that will kick 30+ million people off of healthcare. You are capable of doing better for your constituents, and should do so. You work for the people, not Donald Trump, a.k.a. "I need to undo everything Obama did because I'm an asshat". You can do your job without hurting the average American.

Timothy Mulkey
Hilliard, OH

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gloria [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I strongly object to this bill. It's financial impact upon Ohio will be disastrous. Even insurance companies, hospitals and medical associations agree that this is not the American public needs. No Senator should support much less introduce a bill that will have no discussion or analysis of financial impact prior to voting. Neither should they take away our pre-existing condition coverage. Where will our senior citizens in nursing homes ago.

Take care of us.

Don't kill us.

I vote in zip code [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim Kelly [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Kim Kelly
Subject: NO CUTS, NO CAPS to MEDICAID (Graham-Cassidy Bill)

Importance: High

September 21, 2017

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today not only to speak to you about my son, Joseph, but on behalf of many other mothers throughout the state of Ohio who were gifted with children like my son and who need support from Medicaid to help raise them.

Individuals with mild, moderate, and severe disabling conditions and their families have challenges you, as able bodied citizens, cannot begin to comprehend. Many of you will never live the life or face the tough choices families make each day in order to support their family member within their home. This is Josephs' story.

When Joseph was born we thought we were taking home a perfect baby boy. Little did we know that at 4 ½ months we would begin a 27 year journey that took us from Ohio to ST. Louis to Georgia and back to Ohio before we would unravel the mystery of his disabling conditions. After years of misdiagnoses, in 2015 we were told he had a mutation on gene GNA01. To date, there are only 40 known cases in the world and nearly all of them present differently...Joseph being the oldest at 29 years. His condition is degenerative.

Having a GNA01 mutation has caused grand mal & tonic seizures and prevent him from speaking, but it has also caused his mitochondrial DNA to malfunction which we believe has led to his chemical fragility, neurogenic bladder, obstructive sleep apnea, scoliosis, muscular atrophy, dislocated hip, contractures (knee & elbow), reflux, aspiration, osteopenia, quadriplegia & Chorea (newly developed in 2016). In addition to all of this he is also missing a piece of DNA on chromosome #4 which is still an unknown abnormality.

He requires total assistance to sit up, change positions, scratch an itch, or perform any of the tasks a human being naturally performs for themselves throughout a day. He has a pharmacy full of medications we deliver though a G-tube inserted in his stomach, receives supplemental nutrition via pump feedings at night, is catheterized every 8 hours & is required to use a bi-pap machine to keep his airway open when he sleeps. As a result of these complex, intense needs he requires a skilled level of care provided by highly trained home healthcare aides (HPC) during the day & since 1998, overnight nursing provided through the Medicaid Private Duty Nursing program.

Joseph was enrolled on Ohio's Individual Options (IO) Waiver program September 6, 1993 at the age of 5. As a result of this program Joseph has been able to live within his community and experience as normal a life as we could provide for 24 years with all of these needs being met in his home at a cost less than that of an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF).

Joseph is happy, safe, and free to choose what activities he wants to enjoy inside & outside his home, at will. Over the years his HPC staff have not only attended to his complex personal and medical needs, but have done so while helping him to participate in a boy scout troop and go camping, attend various functions though an adapted recreational organization (sailing, kayaking, bicycling), go horseback riding & swimming, attend movies, concerts and various other age appropriate activities with his peers. To date they continue to

seek opportunities where he can passively participate (library, community festivals, sports events, etc.) and which enrich not only his life but the lives of those around him.

The complex severity of Josephs' disabling conditions supports the message of what is possible when the right funding & services are in place. There is no doubt without these fundamental home based services he would be in an institution and because he was misdiagnosed until May 2015, it is my belief he would not have survived childhood.

My hope is that hearing Josephs' story will help you understand how he has benefited from Home and Community Based Services funded by Medicaid dollars and to encourage you to carve out individuals with severe disabilities from any and all changes to the Affordable Care Act. In doing so you will afford individuals, like him, a CHOICE to live outside an institutional setting by continuing to provide funding & services designed to enable home/community based living as outlined in the ADA Olmstead Decision of 1999.

With kind regards,

Kim Kelly (Mother and Guardian of Person for Joseph Lavalley)

Joseph Lavalley

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Cotter [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal is Systemic Eugenics

Hello, Senators-

I am writing to discuss how the inhumane Graham-Cassidy bill, if implemented, will affect me.

Let me first say the GOP "healthcare" bill proposals have already exacted indelible harm to me and my family.

How am I to quantify this personal damage? How does one quantify the steady erosion of spirit, morale, vigor?

How do I explain that I am dying due to the dismantling of our democracy?

How do I chart the way my life's blood has been drained away with each repeal bill's assault?

I've gone beyond disbelief that our "democracy" can now blithely red-pen away millions of lives in order to make "good" on a morally bankrupt political promise.

My fissured heart has been devalued. My whole, healthy self is being supplanted as surely as the Republican Party is now uprooting the truly good ACA legislation enacted through months of bipartisan compromise.

How do I, one person, one citizen of what had been the greatest country in the world, convey the personal harm ACA repeal does to me? Under the Republican administration, ACA repeal triage has been my death by a thousand cuts.

Do I matter?

I am neither poor nor uneducated, young nor old. My marginalization stems from my gender as a female, my representation in the Democratic Party more than any prejudice determined by my color, religion, sexual preference or tax bracket.

Yes, I and my family are very "average American." My and my husband's working lives in academia and marketing have helped support us to middle class, middle America dream complacency. We've raised to adulthood two educated, civic-minded adults who pay their taxes.

So, after countless hours of calling my members of Congress in Ohio--Republican and Democrat; of reading article after article explaining each appalling iteration of a tax-cut bill disguised as healthcare reform; of seeing endless footage of suffering Americans, thousands without advantages I have been born with, I have reached this conclusion:

I am prepared to die.

I believe in my heart of hearts that this kind of final punctuation is at the black heart of these bills and the entire decaying Republican administration.

How else is one to view endless, sequestered and savage attempts at taking away healthcare, peace of mind for millions. Is Graham-Cassidy one final and mortal jab at ending so many vulnerable lives?

Furthermore I believe There is but one two-faced reason for the bill's proposed implementation of eugenics: Money and power. The ACA repeal is one part of a master plan to help siphon money into the coffers of homegrown and foreign oligarchs: the patrons of many in this Republican-controlled administration.

I am prepared to die.

But I will NOT die in support of bloodied stockpiles of currency for these corrupt empire builders.

I will NOT see my husband's and my scraped-together savings become depleted by my illness or injury. (Raising our two contributor children was costly enough.)

I will NOT see our children resort to juggling their own meager finances to support both themselves and my mortal frame.

I NOT see them or others I love overwhelmed, tortured and tormented trying to pay and pay and pay to my aging body.

I am 57. I will die. Sooner than I wanted. But I will die on my own terms. The only way left after the ACA is repealed.

Ann Cotter

Cincinnati, Ohio [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Madeline Hightower [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham Cassidy

To whom it may concern,
As a resident of Ohio (zip code [REDACTED]) I would like to urge you to not support Graham Cassidy. It would strip coverage away from people like me that have preexisting conditions, and make healthcare a luxury sick people can't afford.
Thank you for your time,
Madeline Hightower

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daisy Reish [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments; brown@ohiosenate.gov; manning@ohiosenate.gov; Senator Rob Portman
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

My grandson has Asperger's Syndrome a form of Autism under your bill he will never be able to afford health care for the rest of his life.

My stepson was an alcoholic and depressed he now is functioning very well but under the new bill he will not be able to get his medication to stay sober.

My nephew is schizophrenic and is in a nursing home on Medicaid under this bill he will not be able to stay in the nursing home and receive his drugs routinely but able to get a gun. Wish the family luck and anyone else in his way to stay alive.

Daisy Reish
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amber Ziegler [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Hello,

My name is Amber Ziegler, and I am a US citizen, Ohio resident, and voter living in Cincinnati (zip code 45212). I am writing to tell you why I oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill currently in the Senate.

I am a very healthy individual. My mom is a retired Nurse Practitioner, so she raised me with very healthy habits and always made sure my sister and I got good healthcare. I'm 33 now and married to my husband, Eric. We both exercise every day--walking our dogs, running, strength training, and training in Hapkido. We rarely eat out, as I cook all the time, and I always make sure our meals are well-balanced and healthy--lots of vegetables, lean meats or other sources of protein, and whole grains. My cholesterol and blood pressure numbers are insanely good. I take care of myself. I work full-time and currently have health insurance through my employer. I get all of my preventative check-ups: annual physical, twice-yearly dental cleaning and exam, and annual OB-GYN pelvic exam (as does my husband, minus the pelvic exam).

That being said, I constantly fear getting a disastrous diagnosis that could financially devastate us. What if a weird pain that doesn't go away turns out to be something serious, like cancer? What if one of us has a terrible accident completely outside of our control that causes permanent disability? My husband and I are currently in the process of purchasing our first home, so it's a very exciting time for us, but it's also terrifying. We are staying well within our means in terms of the cost of the house, but even a modest home would quickly become unaffordable if we had a medical catastrophe. I can't even imagine having children. How do people do it? How do people build a financial future for themselves and have children, when a child with a birth defect would mean lifelong financial (not to mention emotional) struggle?

Life in the United States of America, which is supposed to be the greatest country on Earth, should not feel like a daily roll of the dice. The Affordable Care Act isn't perfect, but it was never meant to be a complete and permanent healthcare solution. It was merely a step in the right direction. The Graham-Cassidy bill currently in the Senate, however, is not just a step but a giant leap backwards. Gambling is considered a vice, so please don't gamble with Americans' healthcare. I urge all Senators to listen to their constituents and oppose this bill.

Thank you,
Amber Ziegler
Cincinnati, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Innis [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Ohioan cancer survivor/parent to child with disabilities
Attachments: HeatherEthan.jpg

Heather Innis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I'm extremely worried, once again, for the future of my family and millions of Americans who currently access affordable healthcare. In 2005, my son Ethan was born with a viral infection very similar to the Zika Virus (it's called CMV and happens in 1-200 births). As a result, he was born profoundly deaf with additional neurological damage that led to several more diagnosis' later in childhood. Today he is a 12 year old boy who also has autism, ADHD, mild cerebral palsy, and a host of other medical issues.

Since we are self-employed and our son does not receive Medicaid, we are insured through the Marketplace in our home state of Ohio. We are really happy with our coverage and its affordability. Thanks to the ACA, our son is able to see a wide range of pediatric specialists at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and attends regular physical, occupational, and speech therapies. He is doing incredibly well in spite of his many challenges. Access to early intervention is undeniably responsible for his successful outcomes and bright future.

We thanked God for the ACA when I was diagnosed in 2011 with breast cancer and had a double mastectomy. The stress of caring for a disabled child while fighting cancer was difficult, but at least we didn't have to choose between my surgery or keeping a roof over our heads. The Graham-Cassidy bill would have us making this choice.

We have benefitted in life-saving ways thanks to the Affordable Care Act. The Graham-Cassidy bill threatens to take us back to a time when our son was a baby and the insurance company denied care citing his issues as a preexisting condition, even though he had full coverage at birth. In addition to dealing with a disabled newborn, we had to fight for our insurance company to cover basic doctor visits and treatments. It was a terrifying time that I hate to even recall, much less imagine returning to.

Please, for my family, for ALL Americans, do not pass this irresponsible and cruel proposal.

Sincerely,
Heather Innis

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bericchia, Gina [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I strongly oppose the most recent legislative proposal introduced by Sens. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., Bill Cassidy, R-La., Dean Heller, R-Nev., and Ron Johnson, R-Wis.

As a patient living every day with Crohn's disease who has had more than 5 surgeries, takes oral medication daily and has infusions every month, I need absolute assurance that people with pre-existing conditions will be federally protected by health care insurance with no annual or lifetime caps. The legislation specifically empowers states to let insurance charge sick people more for coverage.

This legislation would weaken the important consumer safeguards, and as a result, millions of families like mine would no longer be assured that employer-based insurance would cover the basic service I need to live. States being able to offer insurance without mandating protections for what that insurance must look like is no help at all – we need essential health benefits like maternity care, primary care and mental health in this country to be covered by insurance.

I also support the American Academy of Pediatrics who says, "This bill may be a disguise under a different name, but it contains the same dangerous policies as the legislation that failed to advance out of the Senate earlier this summer. In fact, Graham-Cassidy goes even further in its attacks on Medicaid." Medicaid covers over 30 million children, providing them with the coverage and services they need to become healthy and productive adults.

The process of fixing health care should be done through reconciliation. Our health care should also not be changed without hearings, amendments, markups and a complete CBO score.

Gina Bericchia
Columbus, Ohio [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beverly Masek [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Finance Committee,

I live in Ohio

We know how deep the funding cuts will be for Ohio, estimated at \$2.5 billion in federal funding by 2026. Not to mention the 1.9 million Ohioans with pre-existing conditions that would be hurt by this bill, and the 220,000 Ohioans relying on the ACA for treatment for opioid abuse whose care would be in jeopardy.

It is my understanding that next week the Senate will hold two hearings on this bill-- in an effort to claim that they're following "regular order." You can't have a real debate on a bill of this magnitude without knowing how it will impact people's coverage.

And it will not be known just how many Ohioans will lose coverage as a result of this bill. That's because the republicans are planning to vote for it without getting coverage estimates from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). It is unacceptable and irresponsible for any Senator to vote for a bill without knowing how it would harm their constituents. Ramming this bill through is not the process that we want

I'd like to know what happened to the bipartisan process to try to keep what works in the Affordable Care Act and fix what's not working. Was it a ruse?

Sincerely

Beverly Masek, Strongsville Ohio [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shannon Hurd [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to oppose the proposed Graham Cassidy bill out of concern for its negative effect on those of us with pre-existing conditions.

I am a 62-year-old woman with two preexisting conditions. I have Crohn's disease, which has been in remission for years, as well as a congenital heart defect, which is well-managed with medication. I am not sick—I work full-time and lead a health and active life-style.

However, these two diagnoses were enough to prompt my insurance company to deny me coverage, refusing to even quote me a policy, the year the ACA went into effect. My husband and I own and operate a small business and are, therefore, self-insured. To that point, although our premiums rose steadily, we had been able to obtain coverage. We felt strongly that it was our responsibility to carry insurance and still do. You never know what will happen. There we were without coverage.

Thank goodness for the ACA. We went onto the exchange and purchased a policy from the same provider that had refused to quote us a policy at about the same rate--\$30,000/year. That is a lot of money, but we were happy to have the peace of mind. If the ACA is repealed, I am afraid we will go back to the back old days, when insurance companies could refuse to cover those with pre-existing conditions or would quote policies that were unaffordable—essentially making coverage unattainable.

There are no guarantees that the provisions for those of us with pre-existing conditions in this bill are adequate or even workable. There are vague references to providing the states with money for high-risk pools, etc. Still, the bar against discrimination against those with pre-existing conditions combined with the elimination of the requirement for coverage of essential health benefits spells disaster for those of us with pre-existing conditions. The certain increase in insurance premiums would mean additional financial stress on our family and our business. It could mean financial ruin.

Please do not pass this bill. I urge you to return to regular order and work in a bi-partisan fashion to fix the ACA. Our lives and the lives of our families depend on it.

Thank you,
Shannon Hurd
Bexley, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MonicaFitzpatrick . [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Deathcare

Please do not vote on this horrible bill. There are 32 MILLION of your constituents who are counting on you to protect their healthcare.

FIX THE ACA.

Republicans, if you do this, you will lose all of your base when people see what happens to their healthcare coverage. People will be more concerned about the loss of their healthcare at YOUR hands than who they vote for next election. Hello Democrats!

Healthcare is not a commodity. It is a right. It is a right for all, regardless of how rich or poor they are. It's not a commodity. It is a right. It is a right. Why are we the only first world nation who doesn't offer it's citizens healthcare at a reasonable cost?

The ACA was there for me when I lost my healthcare coverage due to a divorce. I don't know how I would have to afford my medication without it. Did I deserve to die just because I was getting divorced and my employer didn't offer healthcare? Thanks to the ACA I had affordable coverage. It is a right.

Monica Fitzpatrick
Citizen of the United States
State of Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Laveck Purdy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Madams and Sirs,

I ask you all to vote no on the repeal of the ACA, no on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare plan. The majority of your constituents do not want you to do this. It will devastate many people who will not be able to afford the care they need. We all pray you will not vote for this horrendous plan.

Linda Purdy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carl Franz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Proposal

Hi, my name is Carl Franz and I'm a constituent from Athens, Ohio.

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal plan. Any plan that eliminates Medicaid expansion and fails to guarantee affordable coverage for low-income Americans is unacceptable. The American people want a bipartisan approach to repairing the ACA, not a repeal for it. 32 Million people losing health insurance is an outrage and I am ashamed to even be writing this to people who make decisions for the "greater good" of our country. Please remember, we are all healthy until we are not. No one gets out of this alive and we all need help at one point or another.

Thank you - Carl Franz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rita Butherus [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee - Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal - September 25, 2017

Dear Chairman Hatch, Rank Member Wyden and distinguished member of the Committee,

I urge you all to listen to the American people and to reject the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

This bill has not gone through regular order, like any bill that transform 1/6 of our economy should. It is not being addressed in a bipartisan process. The bill is just like the other TrumpCare bills, drafted only by Republicans with the sole purpose to repeal the ACA because that was your campaign promise. It doesn't seem to matter that this is not what the American people want. Polls show that majority of Americans like the benefits they have received under the ACA and would prefer that their representatives work together to improve the ACA rather than repeal it and go back to the days of limits, caps, higher costs, and fewer benefits.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal destroys Medicaid, hurts children with disabilities, seniors, and even victims of natural disaster like Harvey or Irma. It will cause millions of Americans to lose their health coverage. Prior versions of TrumpCare were bad, but this one is the worst proposal imaginable. It will allow states to end protections for those with pre-existing conditions, bring back limits on covered health benefits, and lifetime caps.

A big concern for me is that the proposal makes no provisions for national emergencies – like the opioid crisis. Today, in my state of Ohio, the ACA provides funding for treatment for opioid abuse for over 220,000 people. This will be gone. Our local nightly news is filled each day with new horror stories about deaths from drug overdoses. It is disheartening to think that our nation, the United States, will turn its back on its own people most in need of help. We need funding for treatment and mental health counseling for this dangerous epidemic.

Instead of this proposal, We need the ACA improved to provide coverage for all. Please consider a bipartisan approach to this issue.

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. This is about the millions of people for whom costs will go up, care will go down, or coverage will disappear altogether.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Rita Butherus
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ethan Goodman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Knox, Jason (Portman)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Greeting and Shanah tovah,

As I start the Jewish New Year I reflect on the year past and what I want this new year to be. In the Jewish tradition we say "have a happy & healthy new year, Shana tovah". But I cannot be happy with what I see the GOP trying to pass as a "healthcare" bill. In my heart, and in major studies this will be an utter devastation to the States that extended Medicare and to millions of Americans that rely on YOUR help. How can I tell my grandfather that they should have a healthy new year when I know that he relies on the Medicare extension to support him in his old age. He is 95 years old, depends on multiple medication, uses a wheelchair, and has four doctors' appointments a week!! It's burns my tongue to say the words "have a healthy new year" when I know that he will suffer greatly if you pass the Graham-Cassidy bill ☹

I have met with individuals and families who rely on the current ACA health plans. They know they may end up choosing food over medication, rent over surgery, or simply die because they can no longer afford the out of pocket costs. The psychological warfare you are conducting on the people of this country is horrendous. With the media constantly airing segments on the abuses you are putting the American people through, with DACA, ACA repeal, tax cuts for the rich, deregulating our water and air, LGBT rights, lack of police reform, etc its no wonder we are outraged that you would again attempt to pass this disaster of a healthcare reform bill.

Does the GOP literally believe they are helping their constituents, or have you been paid off enough by corporations that you are numb to what you're doing. I am beyond hurt to the point of pissed off that I have to spend my twenties fighting for my future!!

I urge you to find whatever thread of dignity you have left in your shriveled heart to not pass this bill. Leave my healthcare along and find something else to focus your attention on.

Ethan Goodman, MPA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Meyer, Heidi J [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Portman, Casework (Portman)
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I disagree with a reduction in expanded Medicaid. I have worked with low income, uninsured people for 20 years and have seen that they can pay \$10 or \$20 to see a physician or pay for a prescription. People should pay a small amount under Medicaid. However, they should not pay monthly premiums. They should pay per service. If people are unable to be covered by expanded Medicaid it will be extremely costly to all citizens of the U.S.

Thank you,

Heidi J. Meyer, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Molly E. Toth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:25 PM
To: gchcomments; Portman, Casework (Portman)
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am urging you to vote no on the proposed "Graham-Cassidy" health care repeal bill that is before you. I write to you as someone who has personally benefited from the Affordable Care Act, and have family members who are dependent on it.

My brother is 24. At the age of 22, he suffered an aortic aneurysm, an event that was brought on by no fault of his own but was a genetic anomaly--he's featured in textbooks, his condition is so rare. He was a college student at the time, and was unemployed. My father had retired, so my brother was not eligible to be covered by our parents' insurance.

My brother survived and is thriving today because of Medicaid. A caseworker helped him sign up for Medicaid, and he is on it to this day, relying on it for the coverage of the life saving medications he takes daily to keep his heart working. He spent 17 days in the hospital and went through a months-long recovery. Despite the challenges, he managed to graduate on time from his undergraduate program.

Today, he works at the small business my father runs. He is not able to use his degree because he is utterly terrified to switch jobs and experience an interruption or elimination of his Medicaid benefits while he transitions to gainful employment. He is someone who could and should be contributing greatly to society but our unstable health insurance system renders him unable to contribute.

Graham-Cassidy will NOT improve the outlook for people like my brother. Under Graham-Cassidy, he will lose coverage, pay more, and get less. It is cruel, unfair, and unconscionable. Instead of stripping people of their coverage and their stability, we should be working to strengthen our system and provide care to every American.

I urge you to vote no.

Sincerely,
Molly Toth

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--

Molly Toth

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ben Serviss [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

The Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill has no place at all coming up for a vote on September 30. It does not even have a CBO score, and would have massive ripple effects across the country's economy. Trying to cram in a bill of this magnitude without doing the proper research is reckless and irresponsible.

I'm a software developer. If I tried to push out a change this big to our customers without properly vetting it internally, I would most likely be fired. Why is congress intent on skipping out on due diligence on something this important? It boggles the mind and provides clear evidence that the GOP is motivated by personal aims to destroy any progress made by the Obama administration at the cost of American lives.

Obamacare is not perfect and it needs to be improved. But slashing federal subsidies like this, bringing back the possibility of denying coverage for pre-existing conditions - it's immoral and even more harmful than the last TrumpCare plan that even Trump thought was "too mean."

The American people do not want our healthcare ripped away. It is utterly baffling that shoddy legislation like this is even entertained by elected officials. Graham-Cassidy must go away and Obamacare must be improved in a constructive, bipartisan way so Americans can benefit.

Ben Serviss

Columbus, OH
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Ketchaver [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My comments on Graham-Cassidy

Dear members of the Finance Committee,

I've done due diligence on the Graham-Cassidy proposal and am *extremely* alarmed for a number of reasons.

The proposal would scale back funds the states would get over time compared to what they would receive under the ACA. I am disturbed that money would be taken from blue states and shifted to red states - that is not equitable!

G-C would make it easier for states to erode important safeguards, including coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. My husband and I have a son who had testicular cancer when he was in his twenties, fifteen years ago. He was treated and has been cancer free since. The thought of him being denied health insurance at some future time scares us silly.

I'm also appalled that G-C would seriously cut Medicaid. We should care for our vulnerable and poor, not abandon them! Cuts in Medicaid would affect my elderly sister in a nursing home who relies on Medicaid. We also have a young couple in our family who has a toddler with cerebral palsy. Her parent are working hard to get her the car she needs, and she is improving steadily. Some day she may need Medicaid assistance, and we fear that it will not be available if wrong-headed proposals like G-C become law.

The fact that some are trying to rush passage of this deeply flawed proposal by September 30 says volumes about how wrong this is. Please DO NOT PASS Graham-Cassidy! Instead, continue with good-faith, bipartisan work to improve the ACA.

Thank you.

Karen Ketchaver
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Brown-Jamison [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator Rob Portman; Nancy Brown-Jamison
Subject: Vote NO on Trump Care 2, AKA Graham-Cassidy

This bill would cause harm to millions of Americans. Those of us with pre-existing conditions (this includes most elderly people) would be subject to no coverage or very high premiums. Medicaid would be revoked. Ohio in particular would lose \$9 billion in funding.

Politically, such a bill would please only a minority of GOP voters. Most of those who consider ourselves GOPers would step away from the party, because the passage of such a bill would be the last straw. It would indicate to moderate Republicans and to independents, that the GOP has decided to appeal only to the far right and the wealthy, that the GOP has become a pawn of forces that are neither practical nor patriotic. And the passage of such a bill would spell negative outcomes for GOP candidates in 2018 and beyond.

I am blind copying a number of people, encouraging them to write to your committee before Monday.

I welcome conversation on this matter. Please do not try to tell me how good this bill is. I have read the bill.

Nancy Brown
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Hunt [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

While I recognize that health care needs an overhaul in many ways, stripping away the protections proposed in this bill will be detrimental in the short and long term, fiscally and in terms of the health of the American people.

I'm not sure many of our elected officials realize how perilously close so many of our working citizens are to becoming impoverished. This doesn't always show in the financial analyses conducted about poverty and joblessness, but there are very many families who are barely making it. Pulling the rug out from under them and making healthcare unattainably expensive is opening these people, in particular, up to major financial risk, if not potential ruin. Rising healthcare costs mean that no "regular" people can afford to cover even all of their routine care out of pocket. We cannot trust that for-profit insurance companies are going to create a situation where everyone can afford a basic level of care. They have shown us again and again that they are not willing to do reduce their own profit, no matter what it means for the health of Americans.

It is vital that we retain access to affordable healthcare that covers the essential health benefits and does not place lifetime caps or pre-existing condition clauses on any policy in this country. Our nation's health has improved in several ways since these changes were implemented and those figures continue to show positive gains. Please don't stop this progress altogether to score some political points with the 25% of Trump's base that isn't going anywhere, anyway.

--
~Sarah Hunt, working mom of 2, in Anderson Township, Ohio

September 21, 2017

Dear United States Senate,

I fear the Graham-Cassidy bill will end Medicaid as we know it by introducing cuts and caps, which will shrink the program drastically. The resultant loss of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) will mean isolation, and institutionalized care for people like my daughter, Charity.

Charity was born, in 1984, with Down Syndrome. She is in the moderate range of intellectual disability, and will always be semi-dependent on others. Charity also struggles with mental illness and communication deficits. She is generally good natured, but has difficulty with change. She relies on routines and familiar relationships for healthy functioning.

Because of HCBS, Charity lives in a group home, works in a sheltered workshop, and contributes to her community. She can enjoy swimming, dancing, cooking, shopping, and spending time with friends. She is learning life skills, loves her job, and has a strong work ethic.


Last week, it was brought home to me how important home and community based services are to Charity. Due to a plumbing issue, there was a flood at her group home. Consequently, she had to stay with me for several days. As much as my daughter and I enjoy spending time together, this change in routine was a strain on both of us. Charity was very sad about being displaced from her home, and she experienced a great deal of anxiety. Fortunately, the loss was minimal and I could dry out her belongings and take her back home. When she got there, she was so happy! Happy to be back in her home of twelve years, and happy to be reunited with her housemates and her staff, whom she loves. And, I thought how tragic it would be if she lost her home permanently due to the end of HCBS.

Please don't let this happen. Say NO to Graham-Cassidy!

Sincerely,

Cammie Funston


(Pictures included)



Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing

September 25, 2017

Statement of Douglas L. Hensley



Thank you for accepting and considering public comment on the Graham Cassidy Bill.

My brother was diagnosed with FSH Muscular Dystrophy at age 12. The disease is progressive. Over the years, I have watched him become weaker as his muscles atrophied and deteriorated. For most of his life, and his entire adult life, he has lived with this debilitating disease. He has faced the challenges posed each day of his life with stoic courage. It started with a limp. Then he could no longer run. Next, he could no longer climb stairs. He suffered numerous falls as he struggled to maintain independence and mobility. A fall in the shower resulted in a broken knee cap and surgery – he never walked again. Years were spent in a scooter, until his disease progressed to the point that he could no longer maintain posture. He just returned home from a three-month stint in the hospital, brought on by a build-up of carbon dioxide in his lungs, his weakness impacting his ability to breathe on his own. He will be on a trach for the rest of his life. He requires around the clock care now. He will be bedridden and wheelchair bound the rest of his life. He is now living with the most severe case of this devastating form of the disease, and he will never improve.

This brief description of the progression of my brother's disease minimizes his struggles. Still, through it all, he always strove to be as strong and independent as he could be. He is my hero. I wish I had a tenth of his courage. Other than his surgery and most recent hospital stay, he rarely incurred medical costs. He saw a doctor once per year. He was not a drain on our healthcare system. One could say that he was a sick person, with a debilitating disease, subsidizing other sick people, until his disease progressed to this most recent crisis stage. Now, with this bill, Senate Republicans are poised to make his crisis, and the struggles of millions of Americans, much worse.

Our healthcare system in this country is broken, even with improvements like protections for those with pre-existing conditions that were brought about by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The ACA was a compromise and, in effect, a Republican law modeled on the law in Massachusetts enacted when Mitt Romney was Governor. But because it was signed into law by President Obama, it has been the subject of the worst kind of deplorable politics played by Republicans who, without regard to the health and welfare of the citizens of this country, simply want to destroy the legacy of our first African American President, no matter the cost. What's worse, they want to destroy the ACA primarily to make their wealthy donors wealthier. It's truly deplorable.

The ACA is far from perfect. I have seen it first hand with my brother. Sure, he has coverage. But the insurance company fights the doctors tooth and nail over virtually every medical decision they make. The doctors who have treated my brother for years are talented, brilliant, caring and compassionate, but the insurance company routinely seeks to overrule their decisions in the name of the almighty dollar. For profit insurance companies are all about the profit and not so much about the insurance; happy to collect premiums but willing to do anything it takes to minimize or deny claims. It's a system that does not work, an outdated system long abandoned by every other developed country on the planet. For some reason, this country continues to value corporate profits and greed, and the almighty dollar, over the lives and wellbeing of its citizens.

Still, the ACA has saved so many lives, and kept so many families solvent that would otherwise have become mired in bankruptcy. Perhaps most importantly, it has mandated coverage for those with preexisting conditions, coverage that greed-driven insurance companies previously routinely denied. The ACA could be improved, its flaws addressed, through a bipartisan thoughtful approach informed by experts. I firmly believe we will never truly fix healthcare in this country until, like every other developed country, we go to a single payer system. However, Democrats have signaled a willingness to improve rather than gut the ACA. But Senate Republicans are so desperate to undo the legacy of President Obama by repealing the ACA, without input from across the aisle, that they are pushing to do it before the artificial September 30 deadline that will enable them to do so under Senate budgeting rules the GOP established to avoid filibuster, well before scoring by the Congressional Budget Office. This is not the return to "regular order" Senator McCain has urged. It is not conservatism. Rather, it is the extremely radical approach that, on this issue and so many others, puts party over country, profit over people, and partisanship over principle. It's infuriating. We have become a nation ruled by reality TV and FoxNews, lacking in decorum and civility, thumbing our noses at the institutions that made this country great. We can and must do better.

The Graham Cassidy Bill will not work. It is unfair, cruel, and will bankrupt and, in many cases, kill Americans. Here are the primary reasons I oppose this bill:

- The ACA includes marketplace subsidies and enhanced matching rate for Medicaid expansion. This goes away, replaced by woefully inadequate block grants to states. The block grants will push to the states the responsibility for setting up and managing healthcare systems that will work for their citizens. It will come as a surprise to no one when we find, quickly, that some states are better at this than others. As our current President ultimately conceded, healthcare is not easy – it's complicated. The disparity state to state of accessible healthcare will become even more striking. Moreover, the block grant approach requires participation by insurance companies in every state, where those companies must grapple with 50 different regulatory schemes and financing systems that could change over time. How many insurers will determine that such divergent markets are too unstable and risky, and will simply pull out?
- I mentioned the block grants are woefully inadequate. This is a "mean" bill, meaner than the other failed mean bills the GOP tried to foist upon the American people. The block grant funding is well below current federal funding for coverage under the ACA. More importantly, the

- The Bill caps Medicaid growth so radically that states will have to cut traditional Medicaid coverage. The effect will be to cut federal Medicaid per-beneficiary funding for seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children. The number of uninsured Americans will skyrocket to as high as 32 million people. Even more will lose coverage after 2026. People already suffering will suffer more.
- The Bill will drive up premiums, in part because it does not address stabilization of insurance markets required by the deductible reductions for low-income insureds. The Bill's funding for stabilizing the markets is woefully inadequate, and how that inadequate funding is to be used is not adequately specified. Individual insurance markets are going to collapse – further increasing the number of Americans who will be left without coverage.
- All funding and appropriations end in 2027. Before that time, for the program to continue, Congress must renew it or pass entirely new legislation. States that created all these new processes to receive and distribute the block grants – even if they did so effectively – will have to reinvent the wheel and, most likely, figure out a way to address rising costs with less resources.
- As a special note to Senator Rob Portman – my senator from the state of Ohio – there is no provision in this Bill for opioid treatment. This will hurt people struggling with addiction. This has been one of your two pet projects. You vote in favor of this Bill, and you expose yourself as the worst kind of greed-driven, blinded by party loyalty hypocrites our government has ever seen.
- Finally, be honest about what this is. It is a way to cut the ACA, shrink funding meant to ensure affordable access to healthcare for all, all in the name of huge tax cuts for the wealthy and for corporations. It is Senate Republicans trying to grease the palms of their rich donor base.

This is a terrible Bill. It is unworkable. It is indefensible. The best Senate Republicans can muster in its defense is that it allows them to keep their campaign promises to repeal "Obamacare."

If I sound angry in this statement, it is because I am angry. I am tired of our citizens having to rise in protest to prevent a segment of our government from bankrupting and killing so many of us. Enough. Stop it. Start acting like adults. Work together. You are supposed to represent the people. Do it, for a change. Stop being greedy. Stop acting in your own interest. Act on behalf of the American people.

Thank you for your consideration.

Doug Hensley

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeph Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Proposal

Hello,

I'm writing to you about the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill, related to changes to the ACA. By every conceivable metric, this bill is awful.

First, I ask Congress to not hold a vote on this bill prior to the CBO providing a score to it. Without a full understanding of it's impact to the American people, how can a vote proceed?

Secondly, the language in the bill allows states to loosen protections for those Americans with pre-existing conditions. My family will be directly affected by this change, as my wife and I both have persistent illnesses which would now be defined as pre-existing conditions. If these changes go through, we will be effectively unable to purchase health insurance. If this change goes through, trying to keep my wife alive and healthy will result in us losing our home, filing for bankruptcy, and possibly ending up on the street.

Thirdly, the loss of funding to Medicaid will be reduced drastically. This will disproportionately impact the cost of medical care for Senior citizens and disabled Americans.

This bill does not bring healthcare to more Americans. Something on the order of 30+ million fewer Americans will have their existing coverage removed or have their costs raised to such a degree that they'll no longer be able to afford it. We will return to a pre-ACA America, where folks will have to choose between buying food for their family or buying medicine for their family. That is horrific.

Make no mistake, this bill will cause the deaths of innocent Americans.

This bill is cruel, heartless, un-Christian, and un-American. This bill does nothing to help anyone, except the inordinately wealthy. This bill is a massive tax cut for the wealthy masquerading as a healthcare reform bill. It is absolutely immoral.

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. Return to regular order. Let's all get together and work to improve existing legislation through bi-partisan commissions.

Thank you,

Jeph Lewis
Cincinnati, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing 9/25/17

Two years ago, I had to close my small retail business and could no longer afford health insurance. Since then, at my age (I am presently 61), I have been unable to find a full-time job with healthcare benefits. Fortunately, in January of this year, I qualified for Medicaid in Ohio.

00

Thanks to Gov Kasich's expansion of Ohio Medicaid pursuant to the Affordable Care Act, my breast cancer was diagnosed in the spring and I am now being treated. Without Medicaid, my cancer would have gone undetected and untreated.

Under the above-referenced bill, I would become an uninsurable pre-existing condition and could get no affordable healthcare. I am undergoing chemo and still face radiation. Only Medicaid makes this possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Catherine Meguire

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

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary P Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

This bill harms America and every American.

The GOP must stop using our taxpayer dollars to kill Americans.

Mary Clark
Cincinnati OH

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Wharton [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:18 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.

Sue Wharton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kristin foley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Portman, Casework (Portman)
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I am a physician and Ohio resident. Under the Affordable Care Act, nearly 1 million Ohioans gained insurance coverage, including 700,000 through Medicaid Expansion. The Ohio Department of Medicaid did a study to see the effects on the new Medicaid recipients' lives. Here are some of those, from the Executive Summary:

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jazz Glastra [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote not on GCHJ

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Ohio, and as a human being more importantly, I am deeply concerned by the analysis I have seen thus far on Graham-Cassidy. I know that Republicans are under an immense amount of pressure to do SOMETHING, but I have to say that I agree with Senator McCain--the Senate needs to return to regular order and act like they are governing, not dictating. Not only would this bill likely result in 30 million fewer people having healthcare coverage in 10 years, but it would take money away from states like mine that are already struggling under an opioid crisis. That is to say nothing of the potential for protections on preexisting conditions to be effectively gutted. Mr. Cassidy's bill is NOT passing his own "Kimmel Test." It is cruel, it has been written and pushed forward with no regular hearings or testimony, and it is a cruel and irresponsible way of reshaping such an important part of our lives and economy. Please vote NO on GCHJ and come up with something that actually improves lives rather than just being the opposite of the ACA. Remember: you break it you buy it. You will own this healthcare nightmare for years to come.

Sincerely,
Jazz Glastra
Gambier, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kmika515 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: horrendous health care bill

It is stunning to me how week after week, the citizens of the United States must deal with the fear and terror of what happens when its own government attempts to assert that the poor and the elderly are probably better off dead. This is not the hallmark of a civilized society, nor christian, nor any type of benevolence or humanity. I really wish the members of Congress who would support such a despicable plan would have the opportunity to experience what it is like to have inadequate healthcare, for themselves, or their family members. No one would even try to argue that Obamacare is perfect, but why does the next step have to be a worse situation? Not only that, but such a system is illogical from an economic vantage point. Read a bit more history to see what happens when a perpetual class of poor and sick are developed. There is never an advantage to that.

Karin Mika
Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: martha ferrazza [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is Atrocious

Graham-Cassidy (G-C) is Atrocious on two counts.

Number One: Medicaid

G-C shunts 5-6 \$HUNDRED BILLION out of Medicaid and funnels it to the super-rich. Medicaid allows our elderly, disabled, sick and poor to stay alive. Medicaid vs. Extra Yachts for the super-rich is not a left vs. right quandary.

Medicaid vs. Extra Yachts for the super-rich is a matter of decency vs. depredation. Do we have a decent society in which the elderly, disabled, sick, and poor can stay alive, OR do we have a corrupt society in which rapacious plundering of public funds by lawmakers beholden to their ultra-rich benefactors comes to a vote?

Number Two: ACA Stabilization

You have the tools, the legislative language, to stabilize the ACA and bring down costs. Abandoning those tools is tantamount to gross negligence.

G-C destabilizes the ACA. Costs will sky-rocket. According to the AARP a 60-yr-old making \$25k will face a cost increase of \$16k PER YEAR. A cancer patient faces plus \$144k. Pregnancy is plus 17k.

Conclusion

These numbers are impossible. Maybe Senators Graham and Cassidy, etc. can live with ending Medicaid expansion and defunding Medicaid by 4.1 trillion. Maybe Senator Portman of Ohio can live with causing individuals to suffer cost increases in the thousands or hundreds of thousands of dollars.

An obscene number of people in Ohio and across the country, however, literally CAN'T live with those numbers.

And that is what makes Graham-Cassidy an atrocity.

Submitted by:

Martha Ferrazza
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vivian Duvall [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

People are more important than politics. Rushing this bill through without hearings and a complete CBO report is obviously for political purposes, and against the interests of the American people.

Vivian Duvall
Richmond Heights, Ohio

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Zajano [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Destroys The Safety Net

Graham-Cassidy is the worst thing to happen to the safety net and our commitment to the poor and the vulnerable in many years. It is wildly unpopular. It merely serves the myopic political interests of a small minority of very loud zealots. DO NOT LET IT BECOME LAW!!!

Mike Zajano
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patti Hedrick [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy ACA Repeal

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to oppose the repeal of the ACA. It has been a lifesaver for my family. We went bankrupt in 2007 because as self employed people, the cost of medical insurance was so high, coupled with the out of pocket requirements, we spent our life savings, maxed out our credit cards, took on second jobs, all trying to stay above water. Bankruptcy was our only solutions to the hundreds of thousands of dollars of medical bills we were swamped with due to my back surgery and kidney surgery in 2006 and 2007.

We were at risk of losing our home with young children to worry about as well. I am currently in remission with my kidney disease, but I have a child with asthma and my husband uses a C-Pap machine. Our medical insurance was 600 a month just for him and the kids and mine alone was 800 due to my pre-existing conditions and that was with a really poorly rated company. Most of the better companies would not cover me.

Thanks to the ACA, I have full coverage at a rate we can afford. We have all necessary medical checkups without saving for months to make sure we can get the kids vaccinated or get my daughter's inhalers. I no longer have to save up 2250.00 for my annual MRI to check my kidneys.

Please understand that your actions translate directly into the lives of the Americans you took an oath to serve.

THank you

Patti Hedrick
Brecksville OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Bandy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am writing this morning to express strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. This bill is unthinkable harsh in so many ways. The lack of protection for pre-existing conditions is just one example why this bill should not be passed. Access to healthcare is and should be a basic human right. Without it, we will ourselves into second- or third-world status.

I know a couple that, until the ACA was passed, had to move and find new job ever few years just so they could obtain insurance to cover the wife's chronic condition. She cannot live without medical assistance and insurance. She is not alone. There are thousands of people in this country in similar circumstances. No one should have to lose their home because they get sick. No one should lose their life because insurance won't pay for treatment.

The ACA is not perfect. The legislative process that brought it about, however, was more reasoned, more bipartisan, and more debated by far than any healthcare bill we have seen since. We can do so much better. If something as petty as party ego stands in the way, if a border wall with Mexico can even be entertained in the face of this crisis, our future is barren of hope.

Rebecca Bandy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Guy Coss <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Senators,

You don't need to repeal and replace the ACA. You need to maintain and improve it. Blindly throwing 1/6 of the economy and countless lives into chaos is lunacy. There is ZERO medical/healthcare community support for this. Just because you said a bunch of things at campaign time doesn't mean that you blindly, without debate, expert testimony and serious effort and time (i.e., doing your jobs!) uproot the existing systems on which 100s of millions of people rely.

You are all being weak and childish with this. Grow up, please. Listen to folk. Get back to regular order. Debate. Compromise. Expert testimony. Give and take. Stop being so divisive and do your jobs.

Do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. Changes and fixes to the ACA can be made... through regular order.

Respectfully,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Rand [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Hello:

I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It would be a disaster for millions of Americans. 32 million Americans would lose coverage, it would wipe out funding for Medicaid (the program that covers over half the births in the country) and repeal the individual and employer mandate. Without this mandate, insurance pools will have far more sick people than healthy, and prices will skyrocket once again.

The ACA's protections for people with pre-existing conditions is literally life-saving and Graham-Cassidy would allow states to charge people more again, taking us back to a time when a childhood illness or car accident dooms someone to a lifetime of struggling to pay for insurance.

The inclusion of essential health benefits should never be waived. Allowing states to try to cobble together their own, individual plan for covering these benefits is ridiculous. It will mean coverage for basic things like maternity care, mental health care and prescription drugs will be up to the whims of individual state legislatures and governors. This is chilling.

A few personal notes to illustrate what I'm saying. My mother has rheumatoid arthritis, an extremely painful, degenerative condition that leaves her hands, back and neck in terrible pain without powerful medication. Under Graham-Cassidy, the cost to cover her RA would jump to \$26,580. For a retiree this is completely untenable. She would be forced to choose between her medication (and thus her quality of life) and essentials like food and housing.

As my husband and I consider starting a family, Graham-Cassidy terrifies me. A normal, uncomplicated pregnancy would cost \$17,000. If I or the baby were to have complications, my family would go bankrupt and neither baby nor I would be insurable if our new pre-existing conditions aren't covered.

Ironically, we suffer under Graham-Cassidy even if we wait to start a family, as contraception would no longer be covered like it is under the ACA and Planned Parenthood would be defunded.

Again, this bill is monstrous. It would leave almost no family unburdened. Taking healthcare away from millions of people is inhumane, unconscionable and would leave an indelible stain on our country's reputation and standing in the world.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jill Rand
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Lynn Garrett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to oppose the passage of the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. This bill will be devastating to millions of Americans including me. My household has the following preexisting conditions: cancer, heart disease, diabetes, hypothyroid, chronic back pain, and uterine fibroid cysts. The cost of our supplemental insurance and co-pays will skyrocket under this bill.

As retired citizens on a fixed income, we will be unable to afford the regular healthcare we require.

Another round of chemotherapy, another back surgery, or another heart surgery would bankrupt us. In our 70's, we would likely lose everything. Or, we would simply die.

Even with pre-existing conditions, we both live an active life style. We enjoy friends and family and believe we have many good years ahead of us...IF we can continue to see our doctor regular, following his guidance, eat healthy and exercise. Please do not take the good years we have left by making us choose between paying our bills, putting food on the table, or seeing our doctor every three months for check-ups.

Please do not pass this bill. Let it go down in defeat and consider something that will ensure universal health care for all.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joyce Lynn Garrett, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: George Wooten <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep Obamacare

Hello,

I am asking your support to retain decent affordable Health Care that currently is only available under the ACA.

Before ACA, I was uninsured because I could not afford it. My income was too high to be on welfare and too low to afford decent health care (about \$30-40,000). I run my own business as a contractor. Without ACA, then I can't get contracts. So far the Republican plans have just been jobs-killers.

My roommate who is 60 years and never had health care was overjoyed when ACA passed. She is a hard worker, but health issues forced her into a part-time work situation. She lives on about \$6000 a year, and she has helped make American Great - we owe her thanks through decent health care. She still has trouble paying for the deductibles. If anything, her reimbursements should be higher. Anybody who repeals ACA and replaces it with less must not like Americans.

Thank you for your consideration.

George Wooten
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carrie Greaves <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please DO NOT repeal ACA with this flawed bill

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act with this reprehensible bill. Aside from taking insurance away from millions of people; it hasn't been studied or conferenced with any of the Senate. It is being rushed through to beat the September deadline, and the people who are voting on it have no idea what's in it!

If this passes because it was shoved through without any conferencing, you will have the blood of thousands on your hands.

Where is your humanity? Do you care what happens to poor people in this country? It seems like you don't.

PLEASE do not pass this abomination.

Carrie Greaves

Carrie Greaves

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bea ERICSON <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy "Healthcare" Bill

Two and one half years ago my 59 year old daughter came down with bacterial meningitis. Among other symptoms she had lesions on her brain. She was low income and it might have been a death sentence. Obamacare saved her. Obamacare has problems, but they are fixable. Giving these grants to the state and weakening our Medicaid is --maybe--fixable--maybe--later. If this bill is passed, it is a death sentence for people like my daughter, for unborn babes with medical problems, and for many others. What kind of a country do we live in , where our elected representatives continually try to sneak through bills which will kill many of us? Bea Ericson, [REDACTED]
Sent from [Outlook](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, 9/25/2017 @ 2 p.m.

Hello,

I am a professional guardian working in Western Washington State. The population I serve are vulnerable adults - disabled, mentally ill, developmentally disabled, and the elderly. I also work as a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate with foster children involved in dependency actions (children removed from their parents care due to abuse and/or neglect). I advocate for my clients financial, emotional and medical needs. I used substituted judgment or best interest guidelines in helping my clients.

In my job I see the very real benefits Medicaid provides to these vulnerable populations. Keep in mind that these are often individuals who through no fault of their own are living in poverty facing neglect and isolation on a daily basis. For my clients, Medicaid is providing needed medical care, crucial mental health treatment, community access services, safe housing, dental care, vision care, prescription coverage, behavioral therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy and so many additional necessary therapeutic services for abused and neglected children.

Without proper health coverage and community services, these individuals often live in abject poverty or are homeless, in isolation, suffering from severe depression, boredom and loneliness. Chronic unmanaged health conditions manifest quickly into emergency care for which there is no insurance coverage without Medicaid. Many of these individuals are estranged from family members with no one to advocate for their needs and rights. Sometimes, family members are the people who physically/emotionally/financially abuse and neglect them.

Are you really willing to allow an individual who has lung cancer suffer a horrible lonely death? An individual with mental illness suffer the inner torture of schizophrenia without access to services and medications? A child who cannot talk, trust or interact with others because of the severe abuse or neglect they suffered be denied access to restorative therapies? Or, an elderly person who cannot take care of themselves suffer loneliness and fear? Is it fair to make a family with a child facing a life threatening health issue choose between services for that child and their financial future?

Who are we as a society that we can say that these individuals are disposable and undeserving of our care and concern. What does it say about you? I believe that we should all be kind and compassionate to others. I believe that every life has value...from conception to death. I also believe in freedom of choice because my choice may be different from yours. I believe that we as a society should work to provide for all and not just for ourself. I struggle when I see people who are elected to office to serve not just those who voted them into office, but ALL of their constituents in their district, actively work to hurt and diminish the lives of the underprivileged, middle class, children and the elderly. I struggle when I see others put special interests before those of real people who need their advocacy and support.

Most of us have pre-existing conditions whether we are 8 or 80. Some of these conditions are inherited, some are caused by poor lifestyle choices, some are caused by environmental changes and some just happen. I grew up in a country (not the USA) that had universal healthcare. My parents didn't have to worry about having to choose between being able to afford to take me to the doctor or being able to pay for our housing. My

grandparents received the extended care they needed in clean, well run and quality long term care facilities or in their own homes. Universal healthcare has its own challenges but if we look at all the other industrialized countries and the quality of life their populations enjoy, I don't understand why it is even a consideration not to provide it. If you take away Essential Health Care Benefits, we end up paying for them in the end anyway through higher premiums, copayments and deductibles due to others who don't or can't pay. Universal healthcare would bring down costs significantly for all of us.

Finally, Medicaid also serves families who, although they are employed full time, cannot afford or are not offered health care coverage from their employers. Self employed small business owners are priced out of the market and cannot provide these benefits for their employees. Often, they cannot afford the coverage for their own families or themselves. Our country is built on entrepreneurship yet we are killing our small business growth. I am only able to own my own small business and employ two part time employees because I am able to get health care coverage through my husband's plan at his union job. Unfortunately, I cannot offer those benefits to my employees, but thankfully they are able to obtain services through their spouses. We are stifling small business growth with narrow minded beliefs about universal healthcare. Friends in other countries have the freedom to choose their career paths and contribute to society as they don't face the worry of health care coverage as it is available for everyone, no matter whether what their employment status is.

We, as a society, are too willing to ignore the needs and rights of underprivileged populations: the elderly, homeless, children, the disabled and the mentally ill. Is it because we feel they are worth less because they are not "normal?" Is it because we feel they do not provide any value to society? They are human beings. They deserve our care, concern and advocacy, not just before birth but through their entire lives. Members of Congress are lucky to be able to vote to provide their own premium health care coverage. They are lucky to be able to exclude themselves from the same health coverages they wish to inflict on the rest of the population. I urge you to put partisan politics aside and vote NO on this misguided bill. Fiscal responsibility would be better served by cutting overspending in other areas, not through denying care and services to our less advantaged citizens.

Clare K.C. Brown


Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristin Ericson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Act to repeal and replace the ACA.

Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am an American citizen and a constituent of Washington state. My name is Kristin Ericson my contact information is listed below. Please stop this recent attempt to appeal and replace the ACA by Senator Graham and Senator Cassidy. It is obvious that insurers will quickly be able to price those with preexisting conditions out of the insured pool. Trying to trick, exhaust and fatigue the American people into the acceptance of this inhumane and horrible option is beneath this country. We know you all have health care coverage, Ironically we pay for it. We are now requesting that you actually work and create a system that will administer quality care in a fiscally responsible manner, for the rest of us. Yes, it is a daunting task, but you have had years and years to come up with a plan. Refusing to change and offering medical bankruptcy as the option to families is disgusting. Do better. Kristin Ericson
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Richardson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

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

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Full Name: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Seattle WA 98117

This nightmare just won't go away. When the ACA passed, I was jubilant, knowing that my son with a pre-existing condition would have a normal life. My son had a kidney transplant at age 14. This was not his fault but due to a condition he was born with. I was self-employed (nearly 15 successful years) when we found out about his kidney condition. The ACA saved my son's life and gave him an insurance policy that said his life was worth supporting. Graham-Cassidy will take this security away purely because the Republicans want to please their base. Don't they know that their base needs access to healthcare?

I am so tired of this recurring nightmare. I can't understand anyone who would want to harm vast numbers of individuals. I've never been one for strong language, but anyone who votes for this bill DOES NOT VALUE LIFE. There is no way to say that one values life while taking away healthcare for millions. As this nightmare continues with new efforts to repeal the ACA every few months, I truly have come to believe that those who want to deny healthcare are evil individuals.

What does repeal mean to my son? My son is now 20 years old and in college. He is doing great. He takes care of himself, but doing so means that he adheres to a strict medication schedule that prevents his body from rejecting his kidney transplant. He cannot live without a kidney, so taking away the medications equals death — maybe a few years of dialysis but ultimately death. My son is a wonderful human being who has a lot to contribute to this world. I am begging anyone who has any sort of compassion to please REJECT Graham Cassidy. It is a cruel bill. It takes away people's lives. It will kill people's loved ones. It does not respect life. Please, please, please ... as a mother I beg you to please protect the ACA. It gives me and other moms so much peace of mind.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patrick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A few comments on Trumpcare

A few observations about why I oppose the Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill.

- It's a transparent attempt to reroute funds from blue states to states that are loyal to Trump.
- It would be spectacularly destabilizing to an already fragile insurance marketplace
- It would shred safety nets for the country's most vulnerable citizens and gut protections for anyone who actually needs insurance.
- It is designed to punish states who actually try to provide healthcare for their populations while rewarding states that have fought against access to health care.

But then, you already know all of this.

Patrick Smyth
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy LEE <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare comments

I would like to thank Senators Graham and Cassidy for attempting to bring a healthcare bill to the country that will benefit the citizenry. I'm quite disappointed that there is no bipartisan effort to come up with a bill that will work for all. I'm also quite distressed that the people that understand how healthcare works is not being included in designing a good system.

Healthcare is complex and I have not vested interest in Obama Care or Trump care per se. What I believe as a taxpayer of this great country is that inclusion will get us a good product. Why are we rushing to repeal. I know it was a promise in the campaign, so was not touching social security or medicare a promise and that doesn't seem to be a top priority to stick with that promise.

First of all, you will soon find that by not making health insurance mandatory, you will not have enough money to cover the very sick. By making it mandatory you require the healthy to pay for insurance. That will give you the funding to take care of the sick or seriously injured; which is where your costs really start to accelerate. By not making it mandatory you will have adverse selection, when healthy people that didn't sign up for health care and didn't pay a penalty with their tax return, suddenly find themselves either seriously injured or with a serious health condition. They will then sign up for insurance and if it's a state that covers pre-existing conditions they will be covered for that expensive treatment. By making it mandatory as it is now, they will actually be paying forward. That seems to be a concept lost on the Senate and House. They seem to want to not make health insurance mandatory. Why, you make auto insurance mandatory. The same concept holds.

Second, why are you rushing to repeal and replace without having the CBO numbers? Rushing into anything will have a penalty. You are by passing the normal circumstances of passing a bill. There is a reason why all the large health agencies, Cancer Alliances, ALS Foundations, Heart Association, Diabetes Association, Kidney Association, to name a few, are opposed to the bill as it stands. It is because you are pushing a health care bill that will not provide adequate health coverage to large populations.

Third, what are you doing for women? Not covering pregnancy, abortions, birth control? Have women become second class citizens? You are including Viagra and Cialis on the formulary, so if all of the men are able to have intercourse, and you don't cover birth control, or pregnancy or abortions, are all the men prepared to have many and support many children? Makes no sense.

Fourth, what are you going to do with the millions of people that will lose coverage if you cut back on Medicaid? Will they die in the streets with their serious health conditions or are we going to expect charities to take care of them. Is the government willing to pay money to the charities?

Fifth, if you believe the replacement is so good, are you willing to give up your Federal Health Care and enroll in Trump care? It seems that there is only one goal in developing a comprehensive health plan. Repeal Obama care (you have all been pretty clear how much you hate him) and replace it. Why are you so willing to spend so much money on creating a new one when you can explore what isn't working well on the ACA and fix it. We have already spent the money on the health plan, why throw it out? It's time to think about those of us who pay your wages, those of us who pay your benefits including excellent health care. You have a lot of perks that the rest of us do not have and it is us the taxpayer who picks up the tab so you can sit in your offices and scheme with your political colleagues on how to "get" the opposition party. It's time people to think of the taxpayer. Think of how hard we work to put you in the office you hold

and pay the salaries and benefits you are privileged to have. When you are bashing the opposition party, you are not doing your job. That's not what we sent you to Washington to do. We sent you to represent those of us in your precincts and districts. We sent you happy to pay your generous compensation package because we sent you there to do for us. Now do for us.

Cindy Lee

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 06
[REDACTED]

Retired Benefits, Payroll and Retirement Manager of a Local Government

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alex LaCasse <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am a Washington State constituent and I want to express my incredible displeasure in the Graham-Cassidy healthcare amendment. I fully support the continuation of the Affordable Care Act and the stabilization of the market through bipartisan support.

No on Graham Cassidy

Alex LaCasse, [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

hello Senate Finance Committee members,

All American citizens deserve good, competent, accessible, affordable health care. Let's commit to taking care of each other in this way.

The health insurance and pharmaceutical industries in our country are profit driven, and health care is treated as a commodity: fine for those that can afford it but terrible for those that can't. Because of our current system, with its incredibly high cost of care and medication, insurance is a necessity for Americans who need to see a doctor or buy medication. Without insurance, concerns are delayed until emergency care is necessary- and these services are often hugely expensive, unpaid for, and ultimately drive up costs for everyone. It is not a good or sustainable system for any of us. It does not promote good health care and it does not create a stable economy in the medical sector. It definitely is not compassionate and caring. And it is both unnecessary and preventable.

If we are going to let profit driven health insurance stand, then at least the federal government can do all it can to insure that all Americans have access to health insurance. This is what the Affordable Care Act does.

The Graham Cassidy Bill would allow states to deny women access to reproductive care.

It would allow states to deny coverage for preexisting medical conditions.

The Graham Cassidy Bill is not about state rights, or caring for the health of Americans. It is a petty attack on President Obama's legacy. It is about throwing millions of Americans lives into chaos and insecurity so that wealthy people and corporations can comfortably retain their hold on the wealth and control of our nation.

No one argues that the ACA is perfect. But at this time, it seems to be our best shot at giving the most of our citizens the best access to health care. Let's work on improving this system, together.

Thank you,
Katy Breazeal

[REDACTED]
Deer harbor WA 98243

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Art Huber [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Health Care Bill

I would like to go on the record and say that any bill that diminishes the health of our citizens is a poorly written bill for the future of our country. Forget your donors, your base, and arrive at your senses to make our country healthy by focusing on:

Practical measures of preventive health measures;
Early childhood nutrition;
Meals on Wheels programs; and
Expansion of the Food and Drug Administration.

Art Huber
[REDACTED]

Seattle, Washington 98118
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Hamlet [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee - GCH Comments

Senate Finance Committee - GCH Comments

Hearing Date: September 25, 2017

I am intensely and thoroughly opposed to the Graham/Cassidy bill. The contents of this bill have not been endorsed by the medical industry, nor is there a CBO score attached. If this bill passes, it will result in population extermination. It makes me very angry that congress members enjoy comprehensive healthcare of their own, but dictate a sorely incomprehensible healthcare plan for the rest of us.

Healthcare must be a bipartisan effort that will improve upon the current healthcare that we have and we need to work together to finance it. The current healthcare is a sound foundation that needs a caring eye and a caring heart to bolster its benefits for all Americans.

Linda Hamlet

[REDACTED]
Burlington, WA 98233

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lee Ann Gekas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: concerns!

Hello- I am a physician and am very concerned about the Graham Cassidy Bill. Not only will it cut billions in funding for medicaid, it will also allow states to receive waivers which will allow them to cut safeguards that we have in the ACA- making sure that people with preexisting diseases are not discriminated against.

As a physician I have seen the good that has come from the ACA. I work in a community clinic and we see many less people who do not have insurance. This allows people to receive care when they need it and avoid complications. It also covers preventative care. Overall we save money in the long run in addition to caring.

Please encourage work on a bipartisan bill that would make the ACA much better, that would iron out the problems. Obviously something like the ACA is not going to be perfect the first time around. It does need tweaks to improve it.

Do not allow the Graham Cassidy bill to go through and take away health care for many!!!

Lee Ann Gekas, [REDACTED]
Olympia, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT PASS GrahamCassidy "Healthcare" Bill!

Did you take public office to harm people?

Please do not pass this horrible bill! Millions of people across the country will have to go without insurance, people with pre-existing conditions (people of all ages, half of them REPUBLICANS!) will be unable to afford coverage), and PEOPLE WILL DIE.

There is **no excuse** for **Congress** to injure and **KILL** your constituents this way.

Kathleen Moran
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Keller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care bill

Dear senate finance committee

Please enter my comments into the public record for the SFC hearing on Monday September 25.

First, without the ACA I would not have medical insurance. I am self employed so there is no large employer who can help me obtain health insurance either subsidized or free.

Second, I realize there are parts of the ACA that aren't perfect. Even the creators of the ACA agree with this. So please focus your attention on making this better not making it something less than useful to normal people like me. Repeal is not an option, replace with something better or fix is the only option.

Third, stop trying to just get wins for the Rs and instead focus on trying to do what is best for America and the people who live here. There was an attempt for a bipartisan solution. Why can't you move ahead with that idea. What's wrong with a little give and take?

Fourth, you are all smart people so please put that intelligence to work and put aside your egos and silly political battles.

And finally - you have created so much confusion in the marketplace that without doing anything to fix the health care problem you have driven away many of the companies who would have participated, mine included. I have lost my coverage effective December 31 and I have no idea where I will get coverage for 2018.

If you would have included the insurance companies, the medical profession, and the people who need insurance in the conversation you might have gotten an easy win. I know you are good at spin so even if it wasn't totally repealed you could have figured out a way to spin it so you came out looking like heroes.

--

Sincerely,

Leslie

Keller, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98033

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Leary <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy feedback

Without better assurance that the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill provides for equal coverage to what is today available under ACA, without a CBO score to evaluate the cost, and without assurance that Medicaid and pre-existing conditions are covered, voting for this is foolhardy and ill-advised.

Please work on a bi-partisan proposal that keeps what is working and improves the rest. 32 million Americans are counting on being treated fairly and with respect.

Do your job, pay attention to your constituents, and stop muscling through a proposal that makes no sense for anyone except insurance companies and the wealthy.

ErinLeary
Kirkland, Washington

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Bryant [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I'm writing to demand the senate votes against the Cassidy-Graham ACA repeal bill. It's appalling the GOP is pushing through a bill without a CBO score instead of working to strengthen the ACA's individual markets. The American people want a bipartisan approach to repairing the ACA, not a repeal of it.

Anne Bryant
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Gamberg <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I, along with the vast majority of the American people, despise the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. This includes the American Medical Association, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, the March of Dimes, AARP, and many others.

Millions of people would lose insurance, it would end Medicaid as we know it, there are no protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and people lucky enough to still have health care would see higher premiums.

The bill is immoral, reflects greed and is not a 'health care' bill.

Respectfully,

Liz Gamberg

Seattle, WA 98103

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: QUENTEN [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family depends on the ACA. My husband and I are both older than 60 years old. We live on an island with a tiny community hospital that has been able to operate in the black since the ACA began (often in the red prior to that). The Graham-Cassidy Bill will significantly impact us.

Please do all that you can to fight this terrible bill.

Thank you,
Linda
Washington State

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

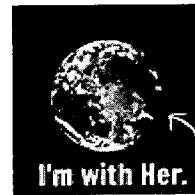
From: Kathryn Keve [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please keep the Affordable Care Act and Medicare...move on to something useful, helpful, to your voters (you know U.S. Citizens!)

Kathryn Keve, Washington State



Book Design, Editing & Photography

- Fiction & Nonfiction
- Memoirs & Yearbooks
- Photography & Poetry
- Reports & Manuals
- Marketing Collateral



Charter for Compassion

"Even the smallest act of caring for another person is like a drop of water ... it will make ripples throughout the entire pond."

— Jessy and Bryan Matteo

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bronwyn Charlton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition that no longer affects my health, but made my monthly payments before ACA so outrageous I couldn't afford to run my own business and support my family. Stifling entrepreneurship and the ability of families like mine to survive are real consequences of repealing the ACA without a better alternative. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Bronwyn Charlton

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Syck <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC Health care

Hello,

Please, I ask for everyone to vote against GC Healthcare.

I ask that Republicans agree and stick to developing a bipartisan solution. Everyone I know believes improvements are needed to the ACA.

Representatives for all citizens is necessary to develop a plan that works better for the most people.

I have pre-existing conditions, as do...the majority of people that I know. Why do any families have to be negatively impacted by a supposedly new and improved plan. Leave what is in place and improve on it.

Sincerely,
Kathleen M. Syck

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 98034

Kathy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Barber [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep the ACA

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I know far too many people that have benefited from ACA coverage that have pre-existing conditions and disabilities. I have family and friends that need affordable health care. No legislation is perfect when it is first created. Rather than wasting precious time on repeal efforts (and childish), please simply work toward a compromise (that is how government used to work). I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Julie Barber

[REDACTED] VA 98221

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tara Clark <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Casey 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,
Tara Clark
Seattle, WA

--

Tara Clark
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jere LaFollette <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Defeat Graham-Cassidy

My family and I support affordable healthcare for all Americans! I encourage you to find bipartisan ways to improve the ACA. I do not support Graham-Cassidy. It should be rejected!

Thank you for your attention to this important issue!

Jere LaFollette, Mount Vernon, Washington State

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jodi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Hearing

My family and friends rely on quality, affordable health care. Because of this I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I find it so difficult to believe that partisan efforts are being made to cut people from the healthcare they need in order to benefit the wealthy and the insurance companies.

I urge you to work in a bipartisan way to come up with a solution to improve the ACA that shows that our elected representatives care about American citizens and their quality of life.

We are counting on you.

J. Richardson
Woodinville, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tom ford <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hi,

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

Sincerely,
Patrick Tomford
Vancouver, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Qwyn Schremser [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

To the Senate Finance Committee,

I'd like to express my deep concern with this bill. It does not allow for pre-existing (PE) conditions. Leaving it up to states to decide and giving them the option to charge people more if they have a PE condition, is not acceptable!

In addition, healthcare is a RIGHT. Everyone deserves to be treated as a fundamental human right, no matter what their circumstances. Even criminals serving time in our criminal justice system receive healthcare and are not charged an expensive premium for their coverage, but the guardian(s) of a baby born with a condition can be charged a premium they likely can't afford. That is not right!

In addition, I have to think that Senator John McCain, although it is absolutely tragic he has been diagnosed with brain cancer, is, in part, not supporting this bill because, if he didn't have private Senate-provided health insurance, he too would be charged an excessive premium for health insurance, if this bill passed and he needed a new insurance plan.

Lastly, I think it's incredibly hypocritical of the Senate and Congress to receive private health insurance when bills like this are proposed. I think if our government officials were required to purchase health insurance from the exchange, or better yet, receive Medicaid or Medicare, their thoughts about health insurance regulations would change drastically.

Please show our Senators how this financially hurts Americans as well as the taxpayer-funded Medicare/caid programs.

Thank you,

Qwyn Schremser
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Churchill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My family relies on quality affordable healthcare. My story with affordability is that we needed to get insurance through the ACA because we did not have healthcare coverage through work. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it!

Sincerely,
Pam Churchill
Bainbridge Island, WA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Heeringa <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:07 PM
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,

Laura Heeringa

Everson, WA. 98247

[REDACTED]

Laura ↑

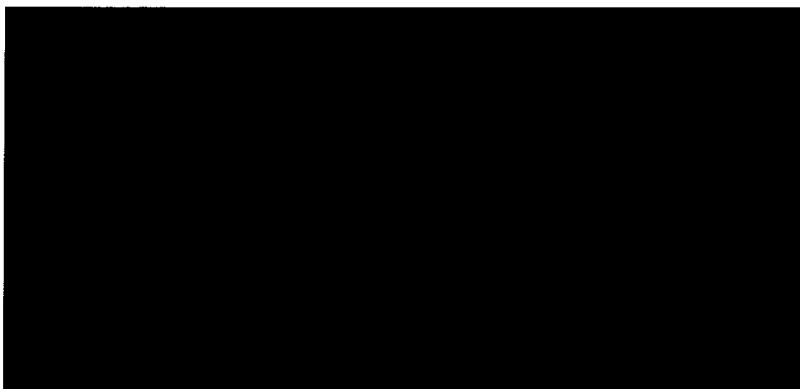
Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Meyer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Regarding the Affordable Care Act

Myself and my husband rely on quality, affordable healthcare that the ACA currently provides for us. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We are hard working people that do not make a lot of money, without the ACA we would barely be able to afford healthcare at its current costs without severely affecting other sectors of our life such as normal day to day costs, quality of life, and our ability to save for retirement. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

To those that want to repeal, I would like to point out that if we moved more toward a single payer system, we would save millions of dollars spent on work done fielding the many different protocols of the numerous insurance companies. Doctors offices would not have as much paper work and time spent on these type of logistical issues. If you want more info on how having a government sponsored single payer system would save all Americans money on health care, watch the documentary:

"Fix it: Healthcare at the Tipping Point"
[Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point](#)



Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point

The average American family of four incurs an annual healthcare insurance tab of \$23,000. In many cases, this as...

Sincerely, Kelly Meyer

Lopez Island WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

Hi,

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

Sincerely,
Patricia Tomford
Vancouver, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wende Sanderson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal ACA

In my work in the community, I know how important affordable, quality health care is to people in all walks of life. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because it threatens to remove many of the safeguards which ensure coverage to those most in need.

I encourage the Legislators to work together on a bi-partisan effort to improve the Affordable Care Act, not to repeal it.

--
Wende Sanderson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WA 98274

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Heintz [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please reject the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

My name is Karen Heintz and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I have multiple sclerosis and also have been treated for an advanced stage cancer. The ACA allowed me to obtain the best treatment options available. Without the ability of insurance companies to reject me based on pre-existing conditions, I was able to purchase affordable health insurance that covered all my medical needs. Because of my experiences, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would very much like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, NOT repeal it.

Sincerely,

Karen Heintz

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: HEIDI KELLER <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop ACA repeal bill

My family has benefitted from access to quality, affordable healthcare through the ACA exchange. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My husband and I have pre-existing conditions -- I have migraines, my husband has no functioning pituitary gland. Without affordable access to life saving drugs, we would be in financial peril.

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

Sincerely, Heidi Keller

Olympia WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sharon belk-krebs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Everyone in this country deserves affordable healthcare. I just transitioned to Medicare, but still have friends and family needing the continuation of the ACA and preferably it's improvement. Before the ACA I had good friends who were without healthcare because of cost and pre-existing conditions. I was lucky in having a job that provided healthcare and was not excluded because of a pre-existing condition of my own, but many are not that lucky. Too many jobs now are part-time with no benefits. Prior to the ACA I saw friends and family fall through cracks that made health insurance unaffordable or denied. This is unconscionable in this country. Health Savings Accounts are a joke for anyone not in the fairly wealthy category. What is needed is a bipartisan plan to improve upon what has already proved to most to be a vast improvement to pre-ACA days. The Graham-Cassidy bill is even worse than pre-ACA days. Our Senators and Representatives used to work together for the benefit of their constituents and the welfare of this country. I'm old enough to remember those days, but it's been many years since it looked like Republicans, especially, cared about anything except being bankrolled by big money interests and beating out the Democrats regardless of what might hurt regular people. I know Democrats are not blameless in troubles our country faces, but this "health hurt bill" is a big example of why I'm a Democrat and why so many people are hurting in this country.

Sincerely,
Sharon Belk-Krebs
Bellingham, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Candy Kerr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please!

This Bill cannot go through ! Too many people will be affected in a way that will be devastating, including me. Without my Apple WA insurance - I would be claiming bankruptcy even though I own my own home. Why can't we model our healthcare after so many countries who are very successful with theirs? US needs to quit putting out propaganda so that we can move forward!
Candy Kerr

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Murray <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband has been living with type 1 diabetes, an currently incurable auto-immune disease, for almost 30 years. Without coverage for this pre-existing condition, which runs in his family, we will likely go bankrupt.

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

Sincerely,

Kelly Murray

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Joly <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve ACA!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions and disabilities and affordability includes a family member with Epilepsy as a result of a TBI during childhood.

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

Sincerely,

Melissa Joly

Snohomish, WA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jenny hertz-wahl <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:23 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. My partner has an undiagnosed auto immune disease that requires testing and surgeries and medications. My son is transgender and requires therapies and many other medical services. Without ACA we cannot afford this care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Jenny Hertz-Wahl

Renton, WA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Wilson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I am writing to strongly petition that you not repeal the ACA but work in a bi partisan manner to improve it. It is unconscionable to try to pass something with such huge impact on all of us Americans with so little input and study. You are negatively impacting thousands and thousands of Americans solely to win a partisan battle.

We need a healthcare solution to cover the poor, the people with pre existing conditions, to more efficiently care for drug addiction than the current expensive way of ambulances and emergency rooms. We need to take care of people with mental illness instead of letting them try to survive on the streets.

Please work across the aisle to make a health care system that works, that improves on the ACA rather than eliminating it.

Sincerely,
Carol Wilson
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mandy Troxel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

I and my two daughters currently receive Medicaid. When ACA came into effect, I was, for the first time in years, able to catch up on my children's well-child appointments: dental checks, family doctor checks, and we all got new glasses. Immunizations were brought up to date. I was so relieved to finally be back on track and know that my family's health care was within my reach. If you repeal the ACA, my family will once again be without medical insurance. God forbid that we have a medical emergency in our family -- it would not take much, without insurance, to throw our already low-income and tenuous financial situation into ruin.

I would like to see a bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. For my children and I, who thankfully remain in good health today. And especially for my dear friends who, without medical intervention, would not be here today. I am writing for all of us.

Sincerely,
Amanda Troxel
Eastsound, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do 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. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA **Affordable Care Act**, not repeal it.

I agree with the Consumer Union letter to the Senate <https://consumersunion.org/research/cu-letter-to-senate-finance-committee-opposing-graham-cassidy-legislation/>

Sincerely,

Michelle Molloy
Seattle WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura McMullan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL

Please do not repeal the ACA. Americans deserve to have healthcare. What kind of monsters want children to have their futures left up to the fate of whatever their state decides to do. ALL Americans deserve healthcare. FIX Obamacare to work better for America, do NOT repeal the ACA.

thank you,
Laura J. McMullan
Bainbridge Island, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katharine Conroy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: . GrahamCassidy healthcare bill

Please don't punish Americans with this healthcare bill. Let's not do healthcare fast, let's do it right!

Why don't we ask other countries about their healthcare, what works, what doesn't, what they would have done differently, how they are planning to improve theirs. We don't need to reinvent the wheel, let's use the blueprint that's already working. You know, work smarter not faster.

Thanks,

Katharine Conroy, Washington
I vote in every local and federal election.
I did vote and I will vote!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: strongly oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

My daughter and step-son completely rely on access to quality, affordable healthcare - as do millions of other Americans who could not obtain health care coverage without the Affordable Care Act. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,

Kathleen W. Forman
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Becky Andrade <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care

I/my family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that my sister has breast cancer and is undergoing treatment for the second time. She relies on the ACA for her health care insurance and resides in Indiana. We are very worried about what would happen to her health care insurance if this law goes in to effect. My husband and I are approaching the age where we will be depending on Medicaid for our own insurance. We have planned our retirement with the assumption that it would be there for us - what happens when it isn't or deep cuts are made?

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

Sincerely,

Vic and Becky Andrade
[REDACTED] Washington 98503

Becky L. Andrade
"Less is more"

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Thompson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My brothers rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have three brothers who make less than \$10,000 / year. Without ACA there is no possibility of them getting any insurance at all. One of my brothers has just discovered a large mass at the base of his skull which is pressing on his jugular vein and some nerves. While at this point the nature of the mass is undetermined, even if it is benign it will likely kill him next year without medical intervention. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Mark Thompson

Snohomish, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aimee Kanemori <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability is that my mother is using Medicare to pay for treatment for her early onset dementia and her related hospitalizations, which have been very hard on my family. Without affordable health care, my parents would be having an even tougher time than they currently are, and her quality of life would be much worse.

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

Sincerely, Aimee Kanemori

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Geri Gaddy Singh <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy hearing

My family and students rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is that my brother at age 33, after losing his job due to being sick, was diagnosed with a genetic liver disorder. He needed and got a transplant relatively quickly because of Medicaid in our state. I still have my brother because of this access, he would have certainly died without it. I also teach special education preschool. These students all have pre-existing conditions such as Autism. They need their healthcare. I need it to maintain the coverage I get from work for my daughter and I. I cannot afford to have another child, so access to birth control is critical. Healthcare impacts me and mine very personally. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Geralynn Gaddy
Spokane, WA

Note: Graham-Cassidy appears to be a last-ditch effort to repeal the ACA. Why are they pushing to take away our healthcare now? Because after September 30, 2017, the Senate will need 60 votes to repeal it, not 51. **The urgency is real.** Use your voice today. Copy and paste the template above into a new email and be heard. Thank you!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roger Pitts [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Health Care

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

I understand that the ACA needs improvement , however, to repeal it would mean over 20 million Americans would loose their health care!!

I would like to see a continuation of the efforts of Senators Lamar Alexander and Patty Murray and others towards creating a bipartisan Congressional plan to improve the ACA. Repeal is political, improvement is sensible.

Thank you,

Roger Pitts

Rainier WA

Sent from [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Casey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy bill hearing

As a pediatrician, I know just how essential access to quality, affordable healthcare is to the health of children, the well-being of families, and the future of our country. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have taken care of numerous children whose lives have been saved by early access to quality healthcare, and countless families whose homes, jobs, and financial security have been saved by access to affordable insurance with reasonable protections in place. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Casey Lion, MD
Bothell, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paulette Stevens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions and am disabled I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Jennifer Stephens

Olympia, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Kearny <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy bill

To the members of the Senate Finance Committee –

Please do not allow this bill to go forward without a true and thoughtful analysis of its effects. This bill will be devastating for everyday Americans, including my father who served his country during the Vietnam war and now is suffering from Parkinson's disease. He relies on Medicaid for his adult family home benefits along with his coverage for his prescription drugs – without which he would not be able to function.

Thank you for your time,
Katherine Kearny
Kirkland, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve ACA, don't repeal it

I'm writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many more Americans have access to quality, affordable healthcare because of the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Liz Briesemeister

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jen Kidwell Drake <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy hearing input

Dear Senators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter, husband, parents, and I all have pre-existing conditions and our health and that of millions more would be jeopardized by this politicized and irresponsible piece of legislation. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Drake

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kara McDonald <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Because of the ACA, I was able to afford surgery to remove painful uterine fibroids, which were impacting my ability to work and my overall life quality. In addition, I was able to afford birth control, which helps prevent future fibroids from forming. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Kara McDonald
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bronwen houck <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband lost his job suddenly in May, and my number one panic with 2 kids was our loss of our insurance coverage. Thanks to ACA we found a plan that worked for our whole family, which was greatly needed when I suffered an injury in July. I know the fear and pain of worrying about insurance coverage and I never want to experience that again, nor do I wish it on a single fellow American. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Bronwen Houck

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy E Hauge <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill / Testimony for hearing

Dear Senate,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is this. My sister had a child with disabilities. Her family had to declare bankruptcy because they paid outrageously high bills of medical costs. The family of 5 went without health insurance for years because they could not afford it. Medicaid at least was able to help the disabled child. My brother, well educated, working person was unable to afford health insurance for his family for many years. I myself, a retired physician in good health, because of costs, have only the option of a catastrophic health plan (the "cheaper" type of policy) that costs me \$8000 a year... and I still have to pay the first \$5000 of whatever the insurance company deems acceptable and 50% of everything thereafter. At least the ACA has made it reasonable to have an annual physical. My insurance company and all insurance companies are no longer going to provide any individual policies in my county, Klickitat, and another county in Washington state. The insurance commissioner, state of Washington, negotiated with 2 companies that will step up to the plate. BUT we don't know what policies will be offered and the cost will be at least 25% higher than what I cited above thousands of us without insurance as of 2018. As a country we cannot afford morally to have the millions of our population uninsured, as would result from the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is a shame when you compare the United States to other developed countries, for example France, where there is excellent health care and insurance at a fraction of the cost in the USA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Betsy Hauge

[REDACTED] 98672

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeff Spencer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:15 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
....

You all need to come to a bipartisan agreement. Beyond all the lack of information from Senator Graham or Cassidy, I would like to know how the Governors going to handle the Block grant processes without a huge staff. Who pays for all that? In this state alone the size staff could be around 100 people and their assistants. Every year in and year out. That alone would take a lot of every states moneys, they sure wouldn't ask the tax payers to pick this up too? or would they? am I way off base? Stop being in a rush, grow up and get back to basics, the whole process of Washington is broke. Get back to what you all know works, together!

Jeff Spencer

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Forman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:56 AM
To: gchcomments

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My whole family completely rely on access to quality, affordable healthcare - as do millions of other Americans who could not obtain health care coverage without the Affordable Care Act.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Medical care needs to be viewed as a right. A majority of our country want affordable health care and congress should be trying to find ways to include more not less. How about a bill that extends medicare for all:

Sincerely,

Paul Forman
[REDACTED] 98011

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Jensen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Americans need quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is about my ex-girlfriend, Becky, who could not afford insurance due to her history of depression. The ACA made it possible for us to buy health insurance for her for the first time in her adult life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
David Jensen
Bellevue, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Avnet <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy NO

I am Amy Avnet, a constituent from 98103.

Graham-Cassidy is a travesty of would be governance, determined to undermine the health of tens of millions in a singularly partisan way.

One of those would be my daughter, a smart, well educated 27 year old whose cancer was caught because of her participation in the ACA. And she will need the provisions of the ACA for a lifetime of monitoring to keep that cancer away.

I also benefit from the provisions of the ACA due to autoimmune diseases that need frequent monitoring to enable me to continue working, contributing to society, and spending money. I can't do the last one if I am broke and sick.

Without ACA we all lose, some of us will lose our lives, many our homes and security.

Please govern responsibly as the citizens of the US elected you to do. Together for all of us.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jules <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy bill, AND SUPPORTING bipartisan congressional effort to improve ACA

Good day!

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My father is a physician and his favorite word in our house was "INSURANCE!" and so I have always been covered. When I was unemployed, I paid out of pocket for Lifewise insurance and other insurance over the years. I have been blessed with excellent health and ultimately have not needed to utilize many services outside of routine check-ups etc. I feel good contributing to a system where I know I will be taken care of when I need it, and where others will experience the same. Caring for our elders, our vulnerable - this feels like part of the American contract, and is certainly a core value of mine. **Please, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Sincerely, and with great care,

Julie Hanks

Seattle, WA

--
Jules

"In a real sense all life is inter-related. All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be...

This is the inter-related structure of reality." – **Martin Luther King Jr., Letter from Birmingham Jail: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Letter from Birmingham Jail and the Struggle That Changed a Nation**

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: stephen friedrick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

stephen friedrick

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98388

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pamela Barber [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Pamela Barber
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98030

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aileen Kane [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH

Honored Sirs/Madams:

I am a person who will be very negatively affected by Graham-Cassidy (Whoever The Heck Else just Signed On). All of my immediate neighbors whether they voted for the President or his opponent will also immediately face negative consequences from this bill.

This bill is not about improving health care for Americans. This bill is about destroying what health care we still can get and it is wrong.

Deprivation of health care is itself a public health issue. When people can't access health care and start dying on the streets, it's pretty unsanitary and people who do actually have access will get sick too.

This is how contagion works. Leave one person to die needlessly and uncared for, and others are put at risk.

Doctors don't want this bill. Ordinary, sensible people who know how things work don't want this bill.

It's going to be even more expensive than the ACA. The ACA was an improvement for most people.

I know a number of people who did not like the ACA out of ignorance who survived cancer and other terrible diseases because of the ACA. Now they like it..

I think a Universal Single Payer plan would be better than all the above. Instead of wasting everyone's time, why not enact a single payer plan instead of the Graham - Cassidy et al bill?

Medicare for All!

Stop playing dice with my life. I don't appreciate it!

It's not even fiscally responsible.

Sincerely

Aileen Kane

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WA 98902

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Sanford [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Robert Sanford

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Washington 98607

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Glen Anderson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: We need UNIVERSAL SINGLE-PAYER!!!

Finance Committee,

Democrats are TOO TIMID.

Voters want UNIVERSAL SINGLE-PAYER.

This is the REAL SOLUTION to our nation's health care crisis.

Voters will reward whichever party promotes UNIVERSAL SINGLE-PAYER.

Glen Anderson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98503

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Valerie L. [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for 9/25 Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

Sincerely,
Valerie Lonneman
[REDACTED] WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Danielle Cataline <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Danielle Cataline

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98204

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Howard J Handewith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal

I am writing to give testimony on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. This bill would impact members of my family in a negative way. My granddaughter and her husband are working hard to better themselves and are struggling on low income jobs, and have two small children who have been benefitting from the ACA for essential healthcare. My husband and I are in our mid 80's and unable to provide financial assistance. I believe that help from the ACA is essential to this young family as they attempt to improve their situation.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth and Howard Handewith, [REDACTED], WA 98115

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate McWiggins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Kate McWiggins

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Washington 98027

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sabrina Lozano [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sabrina Lozano

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Seattle, Washington 98199

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Charles Landau

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Washington 98368

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Radha Newsom <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: testimony for GC hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with medicaid is that for the first time in my life, at the age of 26, I had healthcare (in the state of Vermont), and was able to see a doctor for Lyme's disease, and when I tore my second ACL, I could actually get it diagnosed and treated, unlike the first time.

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

Sincerely,

Radha Newsom

Nordland, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CenturyLink Customer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a constituent living in [REDACTED] 98225 and am VERY opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. We need to work the existing ACA and make improvements upon that rather than starting over and leaving millions of Americans without healthcare.

My hope is that Democrats and Republicans can begin to work together on the health care reform and make it one that will work for us all.

Thank you, John McCain for speaking out and voting against the current proposal. He is thinking more about the general public than are so many in D.C. McCain's my new hero:-)

Kasie Michel

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: RICANN BOCK <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am incredulous that the senate, the "deliberative" body, would even consider voting on a bill before knowing and understanding the CBO score.

Not only does health care affect each and everyone one of us in equal measure, health knows no class, race or gender, but it is also 1/6th of our economy. It's completely irresponsible for such a bill to be even considered before having a clear understanding of it's effects on people and businesses.

I am disappointed that the bipartisan work, in your committee, to find fixes to ACA has been side lined for this preposterous attempt to get a "win".

We are better than this. You are better than this. Heed your colleague's statement at the last vote taken to repeal and replace Obamacare. Hear the words of your constituents. Honor the wishes of the majority of this country.

Thank you.
Ricann Bock
Resident Bainbridge Island , WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: devin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comment in opposition to Graham-Cassidy

Affordable and comprehensive healthcare should be a basic right for all Americans and immigrants, so that we can build families and pursue prosperity "for ourselves and our posterity". As a result, I strongly oppose the shameful Graham-Cassidy bill (and legislative process by which it's being pursued). Although I have employer-based insurance currently, the Affordable Care Act has provided our family the assurance that regardless of employment, we will not be forced out of our home or into bankruptcy should injuries or illness occur. I encourage Congress to pursue Medicare for all as a solution to America's health care cost issues - it is the profit motive, not patient overuse of medical services, that is driving the cost of health care ever-higher.

Devin Malkin
Renton, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ella Melik <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing makes a mockery of due process and serves to underscore the lengths to which those members of Congress are willing to go in order to force their agenda through, against the expressed will of the American people, as shown by survey after survey .

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

Ella Melik

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 99005

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joe Mabel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Joe Mabel

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98115

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Mayer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

If you truly support the healthcare needs of the citizens of this country, please make sure that there are NO provisions for tax breaks in this legislation. Giving away our tax dollars while continuing to squeeze what you offer the electorate is WRONG!

David Mayer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98502

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsie De Wreede <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing.

As recent retirees, we rely on quality, affordable healthcare. The Graham-Cassidy bill takes this away with no viable replacement.

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

Sincerely,
Elizabeth DeWreede and Gregory Reinemer

Rochester, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

Distinguished Senators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My elderly parents rely on Medicaid, my father is a cancer survivor who forever forward will have a pre-existing condition, and my step-children gratefully receive their medical insurance through the ACA. The Graham-Cassidy bill would touch and harm three generations of my family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I join with the following medical & health organizations and strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill:

Adult Congenital Heart Association, ALS Association, Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's Impact Movement, American Cancer Society, American College of Emergency Physicians, American College of Physicians, American College of Preventive Medicine, American Diabetes Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Cancer Society, American College of Emergency Physicians, American College of Physicians, American College of Preventive Medicine, American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Diabetes Association, America's Essential Hospitals, American Foundation for the Blind, American Health Care Association, America's Health Insurance Plans, American Heart Association, American Hospital Association, American Liver Foundation, American Lung Association, American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, American Osteopathic Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological Association, American Public Health Association, American Society for Addiction Medicine, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Amputee Coalition, The Arc, Arthritis Foundation, Association for Community Affiliated Plans, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, Autism Society, Autism Speaks, Autistic Self Advocacy Network, Big Cities Health Coalition, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, Catholic Health Association, Children's Hospital Association, Center for Medicare Advocacy, Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose, Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, COPD Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Family Voices, Federation of American Hospitals, HIV Medicine Association, Infectious Diseases Society of America, JDRF, Lutheran Services in America, Kaiser Permanente, March of Dimes, Medicare Rights Center, National Association of Medicaid Directors, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, National Association of School Nurses, National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship, National Down Syndrome Congress, National Health Council, National Institute for Reproductive Health, National Kidney Foundation, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Organization for Rare Diseases, Planned Parenthood, Public Health Institute, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Trust for America's Health, & WomenHeart

Sincerely,

Michelle

Michelle Cyr Widolff, [REDACTED]
Vancouver, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marin Bjork <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Do not Repeal Obamacare

Please do not repeal Obamacare with the Graham-Cassidy bill. This version does not look out for the American people and providing the opportunities to reject or require higher premiums for patients for pre-existing conditions is unfair and unjust. We need a system that can stay in place and be an affordable healthcare system that will help all of us manage our individual health in a proactive and preventative manner. Let's all work on living better and longer. Currently I change health insurance plans so often the insurance company is guaranteed to not have to care for me when I am older. Deferred care costs us and systems all more than is necessary.

Thank you

Marin Bjork
Seattle, WA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenn Romo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello- I hope that our Senate will make the moral choice to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am so lucky to have quality, employer-provided healthcare, but I know so many people who don't have that. I cannot in good conscience stay quiet while people I care about are told their health and lives don't matter because they don't have a job that provides them with Cadillac coverage.

My youngest brother got testicular cancer at 18 years old, had multiple surgeries, and is now -three years later- cancer free and in college, without medical debt. When he was diagnosed, the COBRA account my parents had wouldn't cover the cost of his treatment but he was able to enroll in the Affordable Care Act POST **DIAGNOSIS. The ACA made it possible for him to continue school and not worry about medical debt and a lifetime cap on treatment if his cancer returns.** We come from an upper middle class family, and we would have been financially ruined by this diagnosis if he hadn't been able to enroll in the ACA. This new bill would force families like mine to give up our small business, would force my brother to drop out of school, would make us rely on GoFundMe accounts to pay for cancer treatment.

The ACA isn't perfect, and I would really like to see it improved on. For one, I would like to see insurance companies held to higher standards about providing coverage. I would also like to make sure that states don't deny their residents the opportunity to enroll in affordable healthcare options out of spite or a sense of political party obligation. **I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Thank you,

Jenn Romo
Seattle, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Pavlich [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I are over 60 and would face increased premiums. My son has Type I diabetes, a previously existing condition. I shudder to think of the crippling effect this bill would have on his life-time finances. This is a serious and complicated issue. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Pavlich
[REDACTED]
Kingston, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jody Green [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy-Heller healthcare bill

To whom it may concern:

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

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill would be a catastrophe for my friends and loved ones who have pre-existing conditions that would prevent them from getting insurance if that legal protection was eliminated. My best friend is only 49 years old but has a chronic condition that requires continued care and will certainly hit a lifetime cap if that protection is eliminated. I also have friends who would be unable to afford insurance without the ACA's subsidies.

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

Sincerely,

Jody Green
[REDACTED]

Seattle, WA 98103

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kerbrat <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My daughter-in-law has serious, life threatening health issues. She relies, FOR HER LIFE, on her insurance. My wife has had cancer - a preexisting condition. One of my grandson's is on the autism spectrum. Because of this and more, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA**, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Paul Kerbrat

Bainbridge Island, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Kerbrat <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comments

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My daughter-in-law has serious, life threatening health issues. She relies, FOR HER LIFE, on her insurance. My husband has had spinal surgery - a preexisting condition. One of my grandson's is on the autism spectrum - a pre-existing condition. Because of this and more, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA**, not repeal it.

You will not lose your insurance - but others will.

Please listen to all the people in the country and to all of the medical organizations, hospitals, doctors, nurses, AARP and so many others depending on you to do the right thing for the health and welfare of the all of us.

Sincerely,

Rachel Kerbrat

Bainbridge Island, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Marie Epp <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I and people I care about 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,
Amy Epp

Seattle WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dennis Marceron <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham- cassidy health care

Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill. More than 32 million American- over 10% of our population- would lose health care under this bill. It would create inconsistencies in coverage, care, and policies from state to state- leaving consumers confused and unprotected. Those with pre-existing conditions are not guaranteed covered or guaranteed coverage at rate that they can afford. Many would not be able to afford coverage or not allowed to even enter the insurance market.

I do not want to see our country return to the days where new parents receive letters from their insurance companies, like my family did for our first 2 children, that if the insurance company determined an illness was "pre-existing before their birth" the illness would not be covered. For my 3rd child we received no such letter thanks to the ACA. And thanks to the ACA the well child checks, of which there are so many of during the first 18 months of life, were all covered for our 3rd child, unlike our first 2. This was a huge help financially to our family- where we did not have to deal with figuring out how to pay for the basic wellness checks for our kids.

Again, please vote no on the Graham- Cassidy Health Care bill. As John McCain said today, healthcare needs to be done through a bi-partisan effort so that it will stand the test of political changes that inevitably happen. This is too important of an issue in people's lives to have it change or be subject to the whims of campaign promises and the political tide.

Sincerely,

Dennis Marceron
Seattle, WA 98144
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Norman J Lieberman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

To: The United States Senate

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We have both pre-existing conditions, disabilities, issues with affordability, etc. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Norman J. Lieberman

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betty McNiel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: The Graham Cassidy Bill - do not pass this shameful piece of legislation

> Donors to the Republican Party are not whom you were elected to serve. You are trying to pass a bill to appease your donors and it will harm millions of US citizens by denying them healthcare. You are willing to have people suffer and die to protect donations to the Republican Party. Shame on you! You need to serve and protect the citizens of the United States. All of the citizens of the United States. Including my niece who voted for Trump but found out later that she needed Obamacare and enrolled in Obamacare which probably saved her life as the mole on her arm turned out to be stage 2 melanoma. So now she has a pre-existing condition, as well as my young niece who has type one diabetes which is a pre-existing condition, and another young niece who has an inherited form of MS which may leave her eventually in a wheelchair, again another pre-existing condition. Please explain to me how your heartless bill - which will end up eventually either denying coverage for them or making coverage unaffordable - is compassionate (it is not) or fair (it is not) or is taking care of them in the same manner that you Senators who have health insurance are taken care of (again it is not). You must not pass this bill.

Betty McNiel
Bellevue, WA [REDACTED]
>
> Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: vicki barratt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:49 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,

Vicki Barratt

Belfair, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: rick skillman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: the Graham-Cassidy Bill

My mother-in-law relies on affordable healthcare. She is reliant on Social Security and needs Assisted Living to manage her life. I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill as it will destroy healthcare benefits for her. For once in a very very long time, I would like to see a bi-partisan effort to improve our healthcare, not repeal the ACA because Obama had something to do with it. There are a number of good parts to the ACA and while it does need improvements, it is providing healthcare benefits to millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

Rick Skillman
Vashon, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Hammond <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Re: Public Commentary on Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am a public health nurse and a mother. I am also a cancer survivor. I join every American in relying on quality, affordable healthcare. My County, has expanded programming for vulnerable and chronically ill adults with expanded Medicaid dollars through the ACA. My son was able to purchase affordable healthcare after years of being uninsured because his employer offers no benefits; a common scenario in my community. If not for the ACA, I would be disqualified by insurance companies because I have a pre-existing condition.

My story is not unique, every American has a similar one. The ACA has made healthcare affordable and accessible to all.

For these reasons I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Susan Hammond
Spokane, WA

--

Susan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy And Healthcare

Please.
Do NOT pass this Act that will take healthcare away from millions of Americans.

Treacy Coates
[REDACTED]
Sammamish WA 98075

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindy Graham <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy Bill

Please, please vote NO on the GrahamCassidy Bill. I am on Medicare and have certain meds that are saving my life. I am also on a fixed income and cannot afford any more out-of-pocket expenses.

Sincerely,
Melinda Graham
Olympia WA

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: claire tangvald [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing on Monday 9/25

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

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

Sincerely,
Claire M. Tangvald
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann & Michael Stevenson & Berres <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My daughter's health care

My daughter's health care coverage is provided through the ACA. The Graham/Cassidy proposal will take away Mollie's health care. Please do not allow this terrible and mean-spirited proposal to be approved.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Berres

[REDACTED]
Bellingham, WA 98226
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Thomas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

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

Sincerely,

Emily Thomas

Tacoma, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jason McDonald [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass Graham-Cassidy

On behalf of my wife and three young children, I oppose Graham-Cassidy. On the path to having three healthy and beautiful children, our family has needed many obstetrician services, both routine and urgent, that have been covered by our insurance. Loosing the protections that current laws provide for pregnancy services would have forced us to make very difficult choices family planning.

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

Sincerely,
Jason McDonald
Seattle, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cristinamullen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Grahm Cassidy bill

My name is Cristina Mullen. I am 53 years old and rely on affordable healthcare for myself and my family. I work for myself in my own small business. My wife has periods of unemployment given she is an Architect... a boom bust business... while she covers us now it is not secure when the economy busts so does her income and our healthcare. We need a safety net... affordable insurance not linked to employment. My daughter has Social Security due to a life long illness.

If these benefits were cut our whole family financial stability would be lost as we would have to pay out of pocket for her care. If she was at some point able to work and go off of social security which is a hope... she would need to be able to insure herself despite pre-existing conditions and if insurance companies are allowed to raise her rates exorbitantly that would also bankrupt us.

Please work for a bi-partisan fix to the ACA and work to stabilize the insurance market. Please prioritize people over insurance company profit... We can not afford a system that charges "what the market will bear". We need the government which is not a for profit business but rather for the good of the people... to put our taxes toward a safety net for the health and well being of the population.

Thank you for listening and working together, Cristina Mullen

[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA 98118
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leah Flowers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

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

Sincerely,

Leah Flowers

Seattle, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ken Masters <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Is a Matter of Life and Death

It is hard to imagine anyone who has undertaken to represent constituents signing a bill that will harm so many of them. You are perfectly aware that this bill is a sham and a fraud that will actually kill people whom you represent.

Wake up and stop following that baffoon in the White House. Lead for a change. Work with the Dems, compromise, and start earning your salary. I'm tired of paying you to do nothing, or worse.

Or don't. And live with the consequences. But don't kid yourself when people start dying. Their blood will be on your hands.

Ken Masters
Bainbridge Island, WA

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Lewis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill public testimony

Hello,

Please add this to the mountain of public testimony the Graham-Cassidy bill has surely elicited.

I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA. Let me underscore the **bipartisan** part.

Allow the work senators Patty Murray and Lamar Alexander have initiated to continue. Work to find common ground instead of ramming through legislation backed by only one party.

There's no question Obamacare needs to be fixed. But Americans deserve better than the Graham-Cassidy bill. Congress should get back to work to craft a better bill.

Sincerely,
Peter Lewis
Seattle WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anita Perkins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I suffer from anxiety and depression and rely on Medicaid

Hello.

Please do not cut my healthcare. Right now, I am able to see a wonderful psychiatrist and team of counselors giving me advice on how to live a healthier and more productive life. I desperately need this. I am getting better, and I anticipate that with their help, I will not need to be on Medicaid for much longer. But please, please, leave these protections in place for your most vulnerable constituents. Please. We just want a chance to live better, healthier lives.

Every few months, it seems, another threat against Medicaid comes up. I suffer from anxiety. Can you stop?

Thank you.

Anita Perkins
Spokane, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Metzger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family depends on the quality, affordable healthcare the ACA has made possible. Without it we would be in serious health crisis and in debt. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mary Metzger
Bellingham, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

We rely on quality, affordable health care. I oppose The Graham-Cassidy bill.

I retired from my paying job when I was a new mother with Rheumatoid Arthritis. Because of medicare I was able to get medical help, raise my son and volunteer in his schools, for the Arthritis Foundation and in the community.

My husband retired when Parkinson's impacted his cognitive function so much that he couldn't continue in his role as publications manager at age 51. He has received quality-of-life saving medical care and in now a creative and productive member of our local Parkinson's community, inspiring newly diagnosed people with hope for a future worth striving for.

Please, improve our health care and do not pass this Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Families and communities depend on a safety net when illness strikes.
With support, people can and do heal and and then turn around and help others.

Sincerely,
Lee Willis
Bellingham, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacob Salzer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

Instead of repealing the ACA, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA. We need better, more affordable healthcare for all Americans. Let's build on what we have vs. start all over, and leave many people with no options.

Sincerely, Jacob Salzer

Vancouver, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Spangler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Bipartisan Effort to Fine tune the ACA-DON'T REPEAL

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both my spouse and I have pre-existing conditions. We are both successful entrepreneurs in part because we can afford health care with the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please work together to fine-tune what is already working. Please listen to your constituents and consider the Hippocratic Oath principle-"First do no harm."

Sincerely,

Kelly Spangler

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Best [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

It is an embarrassment that our nation does not provide health-care to all. How can our nation be productive if it is not healthy? I urge you to protect what healthcare we have now thru the ACA!

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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 Best

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Washington 98250

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Bates <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

James Bates

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Washington 98115

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ines deCastro <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Ines deCastro

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Wa, Washington 98029

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: toni Makinaw [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

toni Makinaw

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98293

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teresa Allen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Teresa Allen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98244

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cara Aguilera <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid, is I work with low income people everyday and see what a difference having health care makes in their lives. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cara K. Aguilera

Vashon, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Hoffer <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

William Hoffer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98672-1823

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom McNeely <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Tom McNeely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98225

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Johnson <libbo@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Elizabeth Johnson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98648

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ric Melton <rgm1956@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Ric Melton

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 99336

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Scholten [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

John Scholten
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98026

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Ric Melton

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 99336

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Hand <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

David Hand

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] d
[REDACTED], Washington 98110

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jerrold Brooks
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] VA, Washington 98664

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Amy Mower

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Washington 98266

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Doris Slater [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Doris Slater

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 99217

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacque Son <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jacque Son

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 99362

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Adelheid Chrambanis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Adelheid Chrambanis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98108

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: v mangum <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I will be one of the people who loses healthcare. I have a pre-existing condition. I have done pretty good having ACA and seem to have most of my condition under control.. It took 17 years to get to this point. If my medical is taken away I will ask everyone of you senators who do this to write a letter to my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren explaining why some people (the poor) will get tossed back to 1999 healthcare wise. Then you can explain how i can't afford my medicine so i can't go on that walk or maybe even out for the day with the grandchildren... I say just vote NO on trumpcare!

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

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

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

v mangum

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 99206

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Hart <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Lisa Hart

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98175

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Shelley Simcox
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Washington 98312

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Dan Schneider

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98115-4217

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melanie kenoyer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Melanie kenoyer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Washington 98660

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Antoinette Emch

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98683

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Zeff [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Barbara Zeff
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98036

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Janet Wynne

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98229

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tim duncan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

This is not the way to conduct public business on health care! Please stop any work on this version of Trumpcare and stop including any tax cut etc., within a bill.

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

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

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

tim duncan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98365

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Michael Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98166

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael J. Dabrowski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Michael J. Dabrowski

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98133

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michele Hervol <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Michele Hervol

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Washington 98126-3445

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Todnem <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

David Todnem

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Washington 98362

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Carawan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing OPPOSING bill

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

I am a breast cancer survivor. My father suffered from dementia and my mother in law is in a memory care unit, dependent on Medicare. I have a 5-year-old niece with two parents working full time and barely scraping by. They need the benefits of affordable health care.

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

Sincerely,

Heather Carawan
[REDACTED] WA
(with family members in Knoxville, TN)

Sent on my Samsung Galaxy S7.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Kimberly Vacchiery
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] S
[REDACTED] Washington 98118-1130

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Robert Lindberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Washington 98662

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Desdra Dawning
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Washington 98502

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Will Silva <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Will Silva

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Washington 98225

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marie Doman <mdoman@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

If the medical device industry is doing well enough to be stashing billions off-shore they certainly don't need a break. The American people deserve a break and insurance that is not only affordable but reliable.

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

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

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

Marie Doman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 98103

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phillip Wood <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Graham-Cassidy, aside from depriving 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families, and reversing protections to many Americans, also hides a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has an untaxed \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore.

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. You must also insure that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes enabling America to invest in the future, including healthcare for working families.

Phillip Wood

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Washington 98133-5015

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Jarrard <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sue Jarrard

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Washington 98611

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janice Richardson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, NOT repeal it.
Thank you for your consideration.
Janice Richardson
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Adam Boehley

[REDACTED]
Arlington, Virginia 22207

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Ralph Chasteen

[REDACTED]
Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I am in favor of the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. Please do all you can to pass this important legislation.

Kathy Stackhouse
Williamsburg, VA

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Gina Paige

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Glen Allen, VA 23060, Virginia 23060

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

Please, please continue to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We are the only industrialized country that does not afford all its citizens healthcare coverage. We should be ashamed of the "each man for himself" mentality and taking from the poor to give to the rich attitude encompassed in this legislation. It is time to put a stake in the heart of the "repeal Obamacare" legislation

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

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

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

Abby MacLean
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Gainesville, Virginia 20155

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchc@comments
Subject: With regards to the Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

My name is Aboli Kumthekar and I am a constituent from Virginia. I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill that is to be heard by the Finance Committee on Monday. As a woman, I greatly fear the steps backward in women's rights. As an employee, I worry about how employers may no longer be required to provide insurance. As a human, I fear for those who have pre-existing conditions and may lose insurance. While Obamacare is not perfect, the Graham-Cassidy bill will force Americans to take several steps backwards when it comes to healthcare. I think it's unacceptable that the Republicans in Congress are trying to push this through without even a CBO score. Let's not allow a bill that will cause millions of our own people to lose insurance. Even as an insured American, I often fear going to the doctor's office because of the incurred cost. I cannot simply imagine what life is like for those who don't, or won't if this bill passes, have insurance. Let's build a better America together, by getting input from both parties, resulting in more people having access to insurance, not less.

Thank you,
Aboli Kumthekar

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against This Bill

Graham and Cassidy's bill is beyond terrible. The biggest lie is that giving states control is a good thing. How can you believe that when my state of Virginia, along with many others, refused to expand Medicaid which would have provided tremendous help to so many people? It allows insurers, whose only interest in healthcare is profit, to charge the sick more for pre-existing conditions.

But the biggest failure of this bill is the way it is being shoved through Congress without a normal legislative process. I include here by reference the sterling statement Senator John McCain issued in opposing this bill. Senator McCain is to be commended for acting on behalf of the citizens of this great nation and not the GOP.

I oppose this legislation.

Walt Surratt
Luray, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill Finance Committee Hearing 9/25

Please vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am a 50+ year old woman who is on the ACA - Silver plan. Having a public healthcare option enabled me to step outside a M-F job to become self-employed.

I think healthcare is complex and I believe it is a right. Economically our country would be better off with public healthcare. I want my taxes to be aggregated and to support social capital, like education, public safety, protecting the environment and healthcare. I also feel strongly that my government should provide free or affordable women reproductive healthcare including abortion. Religion should not govern US policy. Reproductive healthcare is an economic justice issue.

There's so much I want to say on this fight for healthcare. But mostly I'm just extremely pissed. Stop dicking around with people's lives. Fully fund and support the ACA, then work together to improve it. And include Women and Minorities in the conversation.

Jane Materna
Falls Church, VA

Women's Summit, Flip VA Blue
Network NOVA
www.networknova.org
Indivisible VA 8+
www.indivisibleVA8.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Government should work to maximize American health coverage

A key purpose of the government is to look for ways to make the citizenry more stable and this more capable. Insurance is one way of keeping citizens healthy. It also saves money in the long run by getting sick individuals to treatment when their medical needs are less severe. A failure to support legislation that would maximize the number of insured is market focused, not citizen focused.

I grew up in rural Virginia in a white, conservative Christian family and am constantly dumbfounded with how completely the GOP has sold out to market interests. It's shameful how much "conservatism" which has been replaced with right leaning activism, is battling with what is best for America. Shameful.

Yours truly,
A Previous Republican Now Voting Dem

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Roy Wilensky

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Fairfax, Virginia 22033

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing on Graham-Cassidy-Heller healthcare bill

I can't state strongly enough how opposed I am to the passage of this abomination of a bill. I doubt I would be among those who would suffer the most if it were passed; I have decent health insurance that I can afford (so far) and my husband and I are pretty solidly in the economic middle class. We'll probably weather the upheaval.

But millions of my fellow citizens will suffer and some may well not survive. The provisions that allow states to gut the most important parts of the ACA—such as requiring insurers to provide essential services, removing financial penalties or refusal of coverage to people with pre-existing conditions, and disallowing lifetime caps—along with the disastrous cutting of Medicaid budgets are certain to take away access to affordable health care for many Americans.

And to what end? How does it benefit this nation to go back to a health care system in which millions of people have to declare bankruptcy, lose their homes and businesses, and end up more dependent on government services, because it's the only way they can save a family member's life?

Clearly, the ethical and moral implications are of very little if any concern to the Senate Republicans who are doing everything they can to kill the ACA. But what are the wider financial implications of this bill, other than funding tax cuts to people and corporations that do not need them?

I am proud of my Senators, Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, for declaring their opposition to this bill. I desperately hope that more principled Republicans will step up and ensure its quick demise.

Rebecca Mashaw
Arlington, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy

Your Honorable Senators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This issue is too important to too many Americans to rush it through the Senate without a full cost/benefit analysis. Americans want to see the details in the light of day, with sufficient time to evaluate the consequences it would impose. If it is indeed an improvement, there is no need to force it through.

I would like to see a sincere bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not simply a knee-jerk repeal.

Sincerely,

Stacy Brasfield

Falls Church, VA 22042

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health insurance

Senator Warner asked people to tell their ins. stories so here goes. I am 57 years old. NEVER BEEN WITHOUT HEALTH INS. At one point through the decades, when I was shopping rates, I applied for a HSA high deductible policy with Anthem & turned me down because I had had a small wart frozen off of my finger. Other than that, I was the picture of health and so was my family! That was maybe 20 years ago. Then, Jan. of 2013, I switched companies because I found a cheaper policy and could not afford to keep my existing policy once the pending rate hike went into effect. I bought a policy with a \$4500 deductible/OOP, which I thought was horribly high (\$4500 was for our ENTIRE family Out of Pocket), but the monthly premium was more affordable. Well, after more than 3 decades of good health, my husband was diagnosed in March of 2013 with Burkitt's Lymphoma, the most aggressive cancer known to humans. He did not die. In 2014, he was able to purchase an ACA policy. His, our, premium was insanely low, even though he battled cancer the year before. He is now on Medicare and I am still on an ACA policy but for some reason, my own policy more than double in Jan of 2017. Our household income did not change that much. "MY" deductible/out of pocket is over \$6,000 (I think it's \$6,030..) and it pays nothing until I pay that!!! My husband's is over \$3K but his is separate from mine. The only benefit over having nothing is that the amount I pay doctors or pharmacies is lower because it's been negotiated by the ins. company. The policy I have, I consider a life insurance policy because I figure if I come down with something like my husband did, I stand a chance of being treated and maybe will not die. My husband was able to get insurance, even though it's not the quality of our insurance of the past, and is a cancer survivor. Without the ACA, he would have been a pre-existing condition reject for sure! And I am now in a position that if my insurance goes up more than 5 or 10% in 2018, I will have to go without until I sell my house and downsize. This would be a first for me! I won't have to pay the penalty though because I'm paying well over 10% of my income to purchase health insurance now! I pay 19% of "my" income" per year for health ins. WE CAN NOT GO BACK TO DISCRIMINATING AGAINST PEOPLE WITH PRE-EXISTING WE CAN NOT PRICE OLD PEOPLE OUT OF THE MARKET!!! WE CAN NOT CONTINUE TO PAY THE YEARLY, MASSIVE PRICE INCREASES...

No offense guys and gals when I say, GOD HELP US, because I think this entire issue is beyond your ability to fix. Congress is in too deep with all the people getting rich from the system. For that, I say, God forgive you but SHAME ON YOU CONGRESS!!!

THE BEST AND MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE THAT CAME FROM THE ACA : was to not discriminate against those with pre-existing conditions

THE WORST THING THAT THE ACA DID: was to re-define the term "FULL-TIME" as 1,560 hours per week"!!! This has thrown many of us, myself included, into the multiple "part-time" jobs world. I work for the state of Va. and if I accidentally work 29 instead of my scheduled maximum of 28 hour week, both I and my manager, get written up!!!

Well, I hope this helps but why do I get the feeling I'm doing nothing more than blowing smoke and wasting time???

Sincerely,
Lesa Berry
Powhatan, Va.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From:

[REDACTED]

Sent:

Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:52 AM

To:

gchcomments

Subject:

No to Graham-Cassidy. Yes to single payer.

Hi,

Insurance works by aggregating risk and resources. Graham-Cassidy is a flawed bill because it divides groups, rather than pooling them.

We should move towards a single payer system as the most effective means of providing healthcare for all residents.

Thank you,

Daniel Schoenbach

Roanoke, VA 24016

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE: Senate Finance Committee - Monday, September 25 Hearing on the Graham-Cassidy bill

Sept 23, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I understand that you have a hearing on the Graham-Cassidy legislation this coming Monday, September 25.

I am against this legislation because it will take us backwards to pre-ACA days when many people were costed out of being able to afford an insurance policy that would help them stay and/or get well. In particular, it will really hurt those who have a pre-existing condition.

Let me tell you my story from pre-ACA days:

In 2001 my husband died from stage 4 head and neck cancer. Up to that point we were (thankfully) covered by a great corporate employee policy at ConAgra where Roger was a marketing executive. With his death, I lost his company health insurance policy but I was "lucky" because I qualified for COBRA for 3 years. But the not so good part was that I was now part of the individual insurance market. The insurance companies had to accept me but they didn't have to completely accept the cost/coverage ratio offered by ConAgra. So my monthly premium went from a few hundred dollars to over \$900.

Why??? Because I have a pre-existing condition called degenerative back disease which is a fancy term for arthritis caused by wear and tear on the back due to aging. This is one of the health conditions that insurance companies consider expensive to cover. It's on-going and potentially it gets worse over time. IT'S EXPENSIVE TO COVER.

But my story doesn't stop there. After 3 years, COBRA came to an end and I had to transition to my own policy in the individual market. Now the restraints were completely off the insurance companies. Because of my pre-existing condition, I was placed in Group 4 which is for people who have really serious and devastating conditions like cancer, heart conditions.....and yes, arthritis.

My monthly premium now was \$1200. Over the next 5 years, it went up to almost \$2,000 A MONTH. That's over \$24,000 a year!!!! I am very fortunate that I can afford this. But most people would struggle to even pay the initial \$1,200 a month which is almost \$15,000 a year

THIS IS WHAT YOU WILL DO TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IF YOU PASS THIS BILL. OVER 54 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE A PRE-EXISTING CONDITION. MANY WILL BE PRICED OUT OF THE INDIVIDUAL MARKET AND NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD HEALTH INSURANCE.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON THE G-C BILL.

And please start working together....Democrats and Republicans together.....to fix the ACA and make it more affordable as it was initially intended. TOGETHER take a hard look at the past 7 years and HONESTLY figure out what worked and what didn't versus the plan and WHY. Then TOGETHER identify the ways to bring to costs

down for everyone. Call it whatever you like. Let the Republicans take their victory lap they so desperately want and help Americans get health care.

Thank you for considering my story.

Cathryn Waters
Reston VA

Cathryn Waters


Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on 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,
Aoife Leogue

Vienna, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill

9/23/17

Low income Americans and persons in nursing homes need Medicaid. Medicaid needs to be available for these two groups. The loss of Medicaid for these two groups would be a catastrophic disaster.

Randall F. Shank
Past President of the Cornerstone Community Development Center Free Health Clinic and Food Bank
Aylett, Va.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My name is Pam Pittman. I am a citizen of Virginia. I live in a tiny rural region in Southwest Virginia that is poor, really poor. I have worked my whole life to earn a decent living. My husband has too. We have both worked and paid taxes since we were 16 or 17. When he and I married in 1995, we both lost our parents' insurance. After that we couldn't afford the insurance offered at our places of work. In 1998 I bought a small business and became self-employed, the American Dream! Well, except for medical insurance, I mean. For years we only went to the doctor when we were extremely sick. The rest of the time we suffered and hoped the over the counter meds or home remedies worked. In 2007 we were involved in a tragic auto accident that left me injured and my husband permanently disabled but lucky to be alive. It also left us broke. Despite the accident being someone else's fault and us winning the lawsuit against them, we were swamped with almost \$500,000.00 in medical bills. Bankruptcy was our only option. Pride is a hard thing. From someone who had always paid her bills, always made her own way, admitting that I couldn't do it was hard.

We have been recovering from that. Ten years later and my husband is able to walk thanks to lots of medical care, surgeries, and medications. He has a number of doctors to help with all the different ailments as a result of that accident. Luckily, he has Medicare now. I was still without health insurance throughout most of those ten years. Until Obamacare/ACA. I signed up as soon as it was possible and have happily paid my bill each month with Anthem. Finally with the help of a subsidy, I have been able to afford health insurance. I am also still battling the injuries that accident produced. Obamacare has allowed me to see the specialists I needed, to get the procedures those specialists deemed would help me the most, and to afford the medications I need on a daily basis to fight the pain, depression, and illnesses I have.

Three years ago I took in my niece and nephew. Their parents are drug addicts. I was suddenly the mom to a 9 year old and a 12 year old. Thankfully, the 9 year old has been a healthy child. Sadly, the 12 year old, now almost 16 year old, Jared, has developed a large number of medical issues. He has been so sick this past year that he is being taught school home bound. He rarely leaves the house other than for medical appointments. He has a primary doctor, a cardiologist, a gastroenterologist, a rheumatologist, a psychologist, a psychiatrist, and a physical therapist. He is in severe pain 24/7. He goes to physical therapy two to three times a week to prevent his muscles from seizing up and causing even more pain. He vomits multiple days a week for several hours each time. He has to have regular EKGs and echocardiograms plus medication for high blood pressure. The illness has caused him to develop depression and anxiety. All of these things are covered by Medicaid. Without Medicaid, I don't know what we do. Can you imagine how many medications he is on? You can't. No one could afford his health care. Without Medicaid, I don't even want to think where he would be. Probably in the hospital or worse.

I continue to work despite high levels of pain in my hips and pelvis. I don't take narcotics because I have to work to support my family. Without medical treatment, I am not sure that will be possible. Even with medical treatment I am struggling to work the number of hours I need to take care of my husband and these two kids. If you vote to take away my insurance, you are voting for another American to suffer daily. You might even be voting for another American to be unable to work. I am confused by how Graham-Cassidy might affect Medicaid here. The thought of my child suffering because of something the Senate chooses to do makes me

want to scream.

To be clear, a vote for Graham-Cassidy (and the like) is a vote to make me suffer and to possibly make my child unable to grow into the brilliant man he could be. His goal in life is politics. He wants to be you someday. He wants to be a United States Senator. He would make a good one. Instead of just trying to destroy Obamacare, maybe work to fix it? I know it isn't perfect. I do. Or better yet, maybe you could work to reform our private medical system to have reasonable rates instead of the outrageous fees it does now. Put aside your Republican versus Democrat nonsense and focus on your AMERICAN values. Help your fellow Americans. Help me. Help my son.

I beg you to not take away our insurance. I beg you.

Pam Pittman
American Citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please reject the Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello,

Two of my children's friends, both in their 30's, will find themselves uninsurable due to serious medical conditions, if the Graham Cassidy Bill becomes law. Each has insurance through the ACA, and at the moment, each is managing well, despite living with chronic health issues. They have jobs and families, and are able to live productive lives. But if this health care bill passes, each will face higher costs that will, in effect, exclude them from buying insurance. That will mean their families will have to step up, or as is more likely, they will have to go without the ongoing tests and therapies that are keeping them functioning. It will not be immediate, but the long term effects of this bill will probably kill them, after ruining their family finances. Please do NOT let this happen! Work instead to shore up the weakest aspects of the ACA. We are a wealthy country, and there is no reason (politics aside) that we can't all have access to decent care.

Thanks,
Nan Rothwell

[REDACTED]
Charlottesville VA 22902
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: latest Health Care Bill

Dear Senators and Finance committee members:

As an AARP member and caretaker of two parents, I fully realize that the so-called Obamacare system has flaws that need to be remedied. However, the last ditch Graham- Cassidy bill to repeal and replace is even worse for older citizens, those coping with disabilities, people with difficult long-term health issues, and the underpaid working poor who can't afford to see a doctor when they should and instead, end up burdening the ER rooms. Moreover, it will lead to greater inequity between states, because it allows each state to do what it wants. This means that, for example, women with severe pre- or postpartum needs could be penalized financially just for living in a state that only offers minimal coverage without maternal care. If passed, it will mean higher bills for the elderly, more uninsured people, and no to worse coverage for those who need it most. And to vote on such a far-reaching bill before it receives a full CBO report is irresponsible. I implore the Senate Republicans to work together with the Democrats to create a bill that will truly make health care coverage better for all of us. This is what would make America great!

Sincerely,
Virginia Palmer-Fuechsel
Warrenton, VA 20186

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My Health Care Story

My name is Annette Hyde, and I live with my husband, Clint, in Madison County, Virginia. I am 58 and my husband is 59.

Throughout my husband's 36 year career as a Software Engineer, we had health insurance through his employers. In April, he was laid off from his job. He decided to retire.

We obtained health insurance from Anthem through the ACA. The subsidies reduced our premiums from \$1,200 per month to \$222 per month for a Bronze Plan.

If the ACA is repealed, we will not be able to afford the premiums. We will be without insurance until we qualify for Medicare.

This bill only helps lobbyists and big Republican donors. It does not help the rest of us. Please keep working on a bipartisan solution to improve the ACA.

Thank you,

Annette Hyde

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

Dear Members of the Senate,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a disabled, tax paying citizen, who relies on Medicare for regular necessary visits to a neurologist for Myasthenia Gravis, a rare diagnosed auto-immune disease that weakens muscles to an extent that everyday activities like walking, eating, and even breathing are made challenging, if possible at all. I rely on affordable medicine to be able to function in an anywhere near normal fashion, and would be bed-ridden otherwise. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Susan Hicks

Alexandria, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

This bill sucks!

--
Jacqueline Jane Hammaker
University of Virginia, Class of 2018
Not on our Grounds
one green dot at a time **#HOOS**
Got Your
Back

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill
Importance: High

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Like most Americans, I have a personal story regarding health care and my health care needs. Anyone who's ever been sick or had a sick relative or dear friend, knows how critical quality, affordable healthcare is and how disruptive it is to health recovery when people are stressed about their coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. No one denies that improvement can be made, but repeal is not the answer. Please put people above politics.

Sincerely, Laurie Moret

Arlington, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From:

Sent:

To:

[REDACTED]
Friday, September 22, 2017 5:54 PM

gchcomments

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is I was unable to attain health insurance due to a pre-existing condition at a time I needed preventative surgery. Without the ACA I would be at a high risk of cancer and spent years of my adulthood without insurance due to my asthma. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Lampell

Virginia Beach, VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on #GrahamCassidy

I'm against Graham-Cassidy because nobody should be left to die from preventable diseases or manageable conditions in the wealthiest, most developed nation on the planet.

Erin Kelly
Alexandria, VA
VA-08

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: lcantrell@thearcofva.org
Subject: #SAVEMEDICAID

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

My son, Sam, has a whole host of developmental delays, including a seizure disorder, and requires a lot of medical care and also care in his daily life. Sam's school receives funding through Medicaid to help serve him, providing speech therapy, occupational therapy and a one-on-one aide. Sam also receives personal attendants through Medicaid to help him at home and navigate the community. Not only do these personal attendants help Sam, but they help their own families by bringing in a paycheck- because of Medicaid. Also because of Medicaid, I can work outside the home. I love my job and get to help other children and families as an advocate for children.

With state caps on Medicaid funding, Sam's waiver could be cut. Virginia is already ranked 39th in the country for disability funding. Funding from Medicaid for special education in his school could be cut. Sam also has too many pre-existing conditions to list. Sam deserves the care he currently receives. The schools deserve the funding. The aides deserve their paycheck for their hard work and quality care. I want to work outside the home.

This is personal for me.

Shana Gertner
Fredericksburg, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From:

Sent:

To:

[REDACTED]
Friday, September 22, 2017 5:08 PM

gchcomments

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have several pre-existing conditions including recurring migraines that would likely make me uninsurable without the ACA. Thanks to its protections, I take a generic medication that manages this condition so well I am able to be not just a productive member of a society but the "high-performing"

employee of a company that provides investment management and advice.

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AND ADVICE -- do you know what this means? Pass Graham-Cassidy and you will literally be depriving Wall Street billionaires of some of the best-quality advice and management they rely on in these troubled times. One of the products I work on has tripled its real American dollars in ten years. We all know babies and old people don't move you, but can you afford to let that kind of

profit go?! Look into your souls, gentlemen, and whatever ladies happen to be reading this if they are allowed in the room. You love money. I love not dying. Perhaps we can come to an arrangement.

Sincerely,

Ellen Bowman

Alexandria, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: What Healthcare Means to Me & My Family

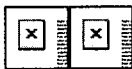
I'm scared how we're going to make it. My job is the only one that offers healthcare, and our Medicaid coverage will run out in December. I'll have to pick up the healthcare offered at my new job for my husband and I and it'll cost about \$400/month for the premiums, plus at least another \$150 for prescriptions. We can't afford it - I'm only earning \$22,000/yr and supporting 3 people on that, plus whatever side jobs my husband can find. We may have to go without healthcare and just do the best we can without it and pay whatever penalties we have to - including penalties to our health. My husband has had diabetes for a very long time, and now he has heart failure too. His heart isn't healthy enough any more to work full time, but his doctor says he's not sick enough to qualify for SSDI, so he works side jobs as much as he can. He used to be an IT Director until the 2008 crash.

We're on Medicaid right now because when I didn't have a job we had so little income that we qualified for it, but only because we are parents. From what I've been told, poor adults in Virginia without children do not qualify for Medicaid at all. So, this state thinks we're worthy of healthcare coverage only because we have a child. When she turns 18, we're unworthy of health support again. How are we supposed to stay healthy without health care for our chronic conditions as we get older? Should we just wither and die to make life easier for everyone else?

The ACA at least provided some support via subsidies for families like us. Taking that away and making us un-insurable is immoral and the most un-Christ-like thing I can think of. This bill is proposing a slow, agonizing murder for many people. I used to be a more right-wing Christian, who always asked, "What Would Jesus Do?" I think Jesus would help today's poor and value people's lives because without your health, you don't have much of a life. I'm seeing more Christ-like behavior from the Democrats, so I'm a Democrat now. Quality health care is a basic need in the 21st century, not a luxury of the rich. We deserve to live, even if we're poor, don't we?

Beth Bunts

[REDACTED]
Dyke, VA



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal the ACA

Dear Finance Committee members,

I am writing you to express my hope that you will not pass the Graham-Cassidy Bill. As a small business owner, I want my employees to have health insurance, but it puts a great burden on my business to provide health insurance. The public exchanges created under the ACA, the extension for allowing children to stay on their parent's health insurance for longer, and the protections for people with preexisting conditions all help my business by helping my employees to stay covered (in fact I believe that a public option would be even better for small business and innovation in general because it would take businesses like mine that have no relation to health-care out of the health-care system altogether!). The Graham-Cassidy bill would end many of these protections and be bad for small business.

I understand that I am not alone in preferring the ACA to Graham-Cassidy. An ABC News poll conducted recently shows that the American people prefer the ACA to the Graham-Cassidy bill 56-33%. (Source: <http://www.langerresearch.com/wp-content/uploads/1191a1HealthCare.pdf>).

I urge you to work as a bi-partisan body, using the normal procedure that Senator McCain has advocated, to improve the ACA. I urge you to do right by the American people.

Dan

--
Dan Gallagher
Alexandria, VA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: hgewanter@icloud.com
Subject: Try again

I am writing to express my concerns over the GCHJ legislation. I am a pediatric rheumatologist and the father of young adults with disabilities. The lack of certainty, financing and other unknowns are reason enough to worry about the effects of this legislation on my family and my patients.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is not a good piece of legislation and should not be passed. Go back to the drawing board, follow Senate rules and come up with a better - and bipartisan - piece of legislation.

The ACA may not be all we wished, but this is worse. Make it better for all Americans.

Harry L. Gewanter, MD, FAAP, FACR

[REDACTED]
Richmond, VA 23230

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill is wrong

Dear Senators,

Our daughter was diagnosed with myasthenia gravis, an incurable, life-threatening neuromuscular/autoimmune disease, the week she turned 18 years old. She has lived with it since 2007. This spring her husband was diagnosed with Type I diabetes. Please do not use their health as a political football. They need affordable healthcare without the stress of wondering if they will lose it if they change jobs or have an lapse in coverage for ANY reason! One of the complaints about the Affordable Care Act from the Republicans was that it did not have bi-partisan support. Now the Republicans are hoping to enact their own healthcare bill with not even the support of all the Republicans and without waiting for it to be fully scored by the CBO. This is a disgrace.

It is no comfort that Donald J. Trump says that those with pre-existing conditions will be protected. His word is no good, and he just wants to undo everything that President Obama did just for the sake of undoing it.

It is long past time for Republicans, Democrats, and Independents to work together for the good of all Americans.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill completely. Strengthen what we have rather than working to destroy it.

By the way, I am deeply grateful for our senators from Virginia. Thank you, Sen. Kaine and Sen. Warner for the good work are doing on our behalf.

Sincerely,
Wanda Sauley Fennell
Fredericksburg, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

[REDACTED]
Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:13 PM

gchcomments

Graham-Cassidy

I am opposed to Graham-Cassidy. It would result in a loss of health care to millions of Americans.

Pat Levy-Lavelle
Richmond, VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy hearing

To the Senate and those involved with this hearing:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My sister has an adult child that has a genetic abnormality, and she is on anti-seizure medication as well as needing steady health care. She is doing great, but of course this would be a pre-existing condition under the new bill, and their coverage cost would skyrocket. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Geri A. Carlson, DVM

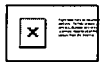
Barboursville, VA

--

Geri Carlson Sauls (or Geri Carlson, DVM)

"Those who hear not the music, think the dancers mad"

"No matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich." Louis Sabin



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

To whom it may concern,

My extended family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is the same as many thousands of other Americans, we have a long and sorrowful history with cancer and diabetes. We cannot afford, on many levels, to see any threat to continued, comprehensive care.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the healthcare we have - I understand there are many like minded people and organizations who agree. Please do not repeal the healthcare we have until you have thoughtful debate and engagement from all sides. This is not just a political issue.

Sincerely,

Christina Ferris
Roanoke Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care hearing comment

When will elected officials act upon their oath of office? Every action other than no involvement by the federal government with respect to health care is Unconstitutional. There is absolutely no power allocated to any federal branch authorizing action in this matter. It was unconstitutional when Affordable Care Act was passed, and any replacement would be the same.

The answer for this is to repeal Affordable Care Act and stop concerning yourselves with being re-elected for decision and instead defend Constitution per your oaths of offices.

Respectfully

Jason Winans
Stephens City, VA

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

I am asking you to not support Graham Cassidy healthcare repeal.

I have had epilepsy since I was 12 years old, and before the Affordable Health Care Act was always restricted by the pre-existing condition clause. When I could get individual insurance, it was always astronomically expensive. Under the Affordable Health Care Act I have been able to get good coverage at affordable prices.

The Graham Cassidy repeal would change all this, and put millions of Americans on both sides of the aisle off healthcare, just so that the rich can receive tax cuts. This is not what America is about. This is not what the function of the government is.

I urge you to reject this bill and support a bi-partisan improvement of the Affordable Care Act. The majority of Americans stand with me on this.

Sincerely,
Beth Hedquist

[REDACTED]
Glen Allen, Va. 23059
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Johnson-Heller proposal

Ladies and Gentleman,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments regarding the proposal before you. I am a single mother with generalized dystonia, a disabling neurological disorder, and one whose child's sole source of financial support is a salary I earn. My ability to earn this salary is wholly dependent upon expensive medical treatments that keep me mobile and able to function in the workplace. Without adequate health insurance coverage, those medical interventions would be out of my reach. At best, I would be bedridden; at worst, I would suffocate due to uncontrollable muscle spasms in my trunk. As an American with a pre-existing condition, a woman, and a concerned citizen, I implore you to vote no on GCJH.

As a society, we will be judged according to the manner in which we care for the least fortunate among us. To rip health care away from millions diminishes us as a people; whatever feats we might achieve economically or militarily or diplomatically would pale in comparison. It is not honoring of our elders to leave them vulnerable, nor is it fair to our children to deny them the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness simply because they were born with a birth defect or genetic condition.

It is my hope and prayer that each of you will heed the voices of his or her better angels and vote not according to political expediency or with an eye to electoral gain, but according to the principles of fairness, empathy and justice that must be our guiding beacons.

Thank you,
Kelly

Kelly Stulce
Project Assistant
Virginia Tech Transportation Institute
Center for Vulnerable Road User Safety
[REDACTED]
Blacksburg, VA 24061
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My granddaughter was born prematurely and then had a nearly fatal stomach infection. Because her family had good medical coverage in a time when they really needed it, my granddaughter is now healthy and quite active.

I want all Americans to have the health care they need when they need it. Therefore, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Linda Parks

Heathsville, VA 22473

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill

I am writing to unashamedly beg the finance committee to do whatever possible to defeat the Cassidy-Graham bill. I have a next door neighbor who cannot sleep at night in fear that the Medicaid coverage he relies on will be taken away from him. He is a 40 yr. old man who is able to live independently in spite of his health condition (Asperger's) because his mother willed him enough money to afford his home. He works part-time washing dishes at a local university in order to cover his basic living costs. He rides his bike to work and to do all shopping as his condition and medications prevent him from driving a car. In other words, he is doing his best to provide for himself but without help to cover his medical expenses he would quickly be destitute.

The slashing of Medicaid spending to make room for huge tax cuts that primarily benefit the rich is immoral. When we take care of the "least of these" among us we will be blessed.

Martha E. Sider
[REDACTED]

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello, Senators.

I and my family depend on affordable, high quality health care, and I believe that the Graham-Cassidy bill will endanger our ability to get the care we need. I have seasonal depression, which is incurable but can be managed with medication and counseling. Any change in the law allowing insurers to limit coverage for people with pre-existing conditions will prevent me from getting the care I need. My husband and older daughter have chronic health conditions as well, but with good care we are all functional (if not always comfortable). We have a high-deductible plan -- we're responsible consumers -- but we rely on insurance to keep costs affordable. The Affordable Care Act allows us to trust that we will be able to continue to get the care we need even in the future.

The affordable Care Act is not perfect. I won't argue about that. But it's better than what we had before. I would like to see a bipartisan effort in Congress to improve the ACA, not to repeal it. Don't rush this. Too many lives are at stake.

Thank you,
Laura Twardy
Reston, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Banks Steve
Subject: Against "Graham-Cassidy" Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy healthcare repeal bill. I have two close relatives who have their health insurance through the ACA. They are both a part of the "working poor" with minimum wage jobs. One of them would very likely have died without abdominal surgery to remove a blockage due to diverticulitis. The other has good health but is glad to have health insurance through the ACA in case the unexpected happens.

The ACA is not perfect, and needs to be improved upon in a bipartisan manner, without the political bickering we have in our country at this time.

Thank you.

Steven (Steve) C. Banks
Blacksburg, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We're just a pile of pre-existing conditions; but it's not me I'm worried about – it's the families without resources to get their children the care they need. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Susan Kraterfield

Roanoke, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:15 PM
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, Nell Zirolì

Norfolk, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Megan Knutson - GHC Comment

Dear Representative,

Thank you for your service and support of our country; I sincerely appreciate you. My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a full-time working mother who is the breadwinner for my family. I work for a start-up company that does not provide health care benefits and therefore I need affordable open-market options that provide meaningful coverage for my family, particularly, my darling 3-year-old daughter.

We kindly request that you work to enact a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA**, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Megan Knutson
Nellysford, Virginia
USA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:21 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.

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. Lourinda Zies

[REDACTED]
Chantilly, VA 20151
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: REJECT the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Both my wife and I work full-time to keep our two children fed and healthy. She is a small business owner with Type 1 Diabetes. America is great because of people like her and under the Graham-Cassidy bill, we would not be able to afford the quality care that keeps her healthy; both supporting our family and strengthening our community.

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

Sincerely,
Seth Green
Charlottesville, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We have relied on the ACA for healthcare ever since I decided to stay home and take care of our young children. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Merridy Gnagey

Harrisonburg, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE GRAHAM-CASSIDY!!

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

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

DO NOT REPEAL THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.

Sincerely,

Carol Burke

[REDACTED]
Fairfield VA 24435

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a chronic back injury and hip injury and do not make enough money to afford treatment under this bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Maxx Katz

Keswick, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

I stand with Sen. John McCain, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, AARP, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, Planned Parenthood, Kaiser Permanente, America's Health Insurance Plans, the American Heart Association, the Association of American Medical Colleges, the HIV Medicine Association, the Alzheimer's Association and Alzheimer's Impact Movement, the American Cancer Society, the National Association of Medicaid Directors, the American Hospital Association, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Children's Hospital Association, the Public Health Institute, and countless others in opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill. Quality and affordable healthcare should not be a benefit of only the wealthy and privileged. We as a nation are better than that! Isn't it finally time that bi-partisan efforts be focused on improving the Affordable Care Act rather than these continually failed efforts at repeal?

Sincerely,

Jeff Powell
Gainesville, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with accessible, affordable coverage is that I am a successful freelancer unable to acquire insurance from an employer. I have worked extraordinarily hard to achieve a balance in my career, and being able to have quality health insurance at an affordable rate is a key to that success. Healthcare is a right.

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

Sincerely,

Kathryn Zoerb

Arlington, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy would be disastrous for our country

Healthcare reform was supposed to do 2 things: reduce the rate of increase of skyrocketing premiums and provide affordable accessible healthcare to millions of more Americans. The Graham-Cassidy bill would do just the opposite.

I am fortunate to have Medicare, and don't want to see services cut and premiums raised just so the wealthy get their tax cuts. Trickle down has never worked and never will.

Candace Graham

[REDACTED]
Midlothian, VA 23112

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Democrat Healthcare Debacle...

To whom this may concern,
Mark Warner recommended we weigh in on the topic of healthcare plan that was dumped by a partisan effort of the Democrats several years ago, being placed squarely on the American public lap. Now Obamacare is failing as projected it would. Surprised? Do we really need a federal government solution overreach as opposed to a state level with free market solutions? What about the 10th Amendment... where does that enter this discussion? So what are your solutions to fix this debacle that the originating partisan Democrats authored (not sure this was created by Democrats event rather lobbyists) and forced on the public with the majority uninformed, who self admittedly did not read or comprehend the bill, who voted lock step to shove it through, which is now imploding under its own weight? Let it implode into a crash landing rather than enter into discussions for bipartisan solutions? Most of congress is a disgusting mess and needs flushed. Why do you clowns continue to bicker like children? Do your jobs, repeal this mess and collaborate together on a unique American solution like adults!!!!

Thank you.

Martin Juergensen
Glen Allen, Virginia
23059
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I **oppose** the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with [Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, etc.] is :1. both my husband and I have pre-existing conditions; 2. we have a niece, born with cerebral palsy, who benefits from medicaid. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve** the ACA, not repeal it One does not destroy a huge program that has MANY elements that work favorably and repeal it for unknowns (details that could not possibly be worked out in a short span of time) and expect the nation to have the benefits it has now. **Repair, don't repeal. If I were voting, it would be an unequivocal NO to the Graham-Cassidy Bill !!**

Sincerely

Olivia Gutoff
Williamsburg, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against Graham-Cassidy

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I do not see any wisdom at all in hurting so many Americans by taking away their healthcare, adding stress to so many lives. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Gwen Goodkin

Charlottesville, VA

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save Obamacare, defeat the repeal bill

Ladies and gentlemen,

I urge you to stop the disgraceful attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act. You will hurt millions of Americans if you do so. Instead, both parties need to work together to improve it. Put politics aside and put people first. Thank you.

David Zarrow
Reston, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care bill comments

Dear Senators,

As a lifelong Virginian, a mother of three and a pediatrician, I am writing to express opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill set to go before Congress. It is hard to put in to words just how destructive this bill would be for children across the United States. Particularly disturbing is the fact that the cuts in this bill and the fundamental change to Medicaid, disproportionately hurts children, especially poor, sick children. As a pediatrician, I could give endless examples of families whose children would be put at risk of dying if this bill goes through. This is not an exaggeration – this is real life for families throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States.

I will give you one example. I have a patient who is 2 years old with multiple congenital abnormalities, including swelling on the brain that can lead to death if not treated promptly. This mother works several jobs, relies on public transportation and has no family support. She relies on Medicaid insurance to help pay for what would otherwise be bankrupting treatments and specialty visits for her son. Without Medicaid, she would either have to decide to go without food or electricity for her three children, or go to a fraction of the necessary visits this child needs to thrive and stay alive.

But don't just listen to me, one pediatrician in one state, please listen to anyone associated in any way with delivering health care in this country. All groups, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Medical Association and all groups representing senior citizens in our country – are wholly opposed to this bill. It is incredibly rare to get insurance companies and physicians on the same page, but again the largest insurance companies and physician groups are opposed to this bill.

Please, allow a bipartisan approach that includes those of us delivering health care day in and day out to be part of this process after killing this harmful bill.

Respectfully,

Paige Perriello, MD

[REDACTED]
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Honorable Committee Members:

I am writing to urge the committee not to support the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. The patchwork of healthcare policies, and the patchwork of medicaid programs that would proliferate across the country, varied state by state, make clear that this would be a decisive bill, resulting in a decisive system that would rip our country apart. I do not see any reason to trust states to make reasonable decisions about pre-existing conditions or medicaid applications, and the result would be state by state discrimination of various portions of our citizenry. I urge you to vote not, do not support the Graham-Cassidy health care reform bill. The most telling story of health care discrimination would apply to the needs of diabetics - friends and family members who have diabetes and have only been able to get affordable health insurance policies since the passage of a national ACA. To remove this safety net, as well as the important programs afforded by medicaid would be cruel and heartless. Many of the elderly would suffer for certain - something that will happen to all of our parents and ourselves as we age. How could the members of the committee, and members of congress even consider removing the medicaid system that many of our elderly rely on as last resort.

Thank you, Bradford Strickland

--
Bradford Strickland, PhD
Alexandria, VA 22314

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition, and worry that losing the progress that has been made making insurance available to many more Americans would put my own and my family's insurance at risk. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Laura Gayton

Blacksburg, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony on Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, and because of the nature of the most recently presented alternative to ACA, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I know many people who have "pre-existing" conditions that were able to finally get insurance with ACA. ACA has literally saved lives. The affordability aspect is really important for many families in America. The Graham-Cassidy bill would be a disaster for many of my loved ones.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, and work with what we have. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Asher
Alexandria, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

My mother has preexisting conditions, including Type II diabetes and high blood pressure. My stepfather has a preexisting condition, a rare form of cancer for which he has gone through chemo twice. Both my children require expensive prescriptions. And I cannot fathom the impossible costs of so many others battling serious medical conditions.

Vote no on Graham-Cassidy.

Potential cost increases it would cause by state:

- AK: \$31,790
- AZ: \$22,074
- ME: \$16,437
- WV: \$18,462

That's simply unaffordable.

Thank you to VA Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine for taking the right stand. I urge you to follow suit.

Catherina Hurlburt
Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality affordable healthcare - as does everyone!! - and because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My niece had a baby last year when she was self-employed and could not afford healthcare for her newborn. The baby was covered by Medicaid for almost a year until my niece was able to find a full-time job with health benefits. She and her husband had coverage through the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA — yes it's not perfect — not repeal it and leave tens of thousands of people without coverage. Our country needs this much more than we need tax cuts for the wealthy. Trickle-down economics didn't work for Reagan, it has never worked, and there's no reason to think it will.

Sincerely,
Marion Erickson
Vienna, VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Legislation

Dear Honorable Members of the Committee,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on the aforementioned legislation.

With all due respect this legislation should be shelved and the Senate should resume its bipartisan efforts with Senators Alexander and Murray to make amendments that will improve the existing Affordable Care Act. The legislation being considered will allow insurers to discriminate against folks with pre-existing conditions, limit the kinds of services people can receive, hurt seniors, veterans, kids with disabilities and result in more than 30 million of your fellow Americans losing insurance coverage. It is shameful to think that anyone would support nonetheless vote for this bill. Finally, the fact there is no CBO score nor any effort to solicit public input in a meaningful manner is reason enough to kill the bill.

I'm old enough to remember when members of Congress worked together. Even the Affordable Care Act was amended with amendments from both parties.

Sincerely,

Robert Lazaro
Purcellville, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am writing to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill would create problems for just about all of my friends and family members, who have pre-existing conditions ranging from diabetes to Crohn's disease to mental health issues. Giving a block grant to the states will not ensure that people with pre-existing conditions are protected, and it may allow insurers to include lifetime caps on benefits. In addition, the insurance policies that some states approve may not cover the full range of preventive care and maternity care as is currently required. I would like to see a true bipartisan effort to fix the problems in the current health care law, not repeal.

Thank you for considering my views.

Nancy Broff
Arlington, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Graham-Cassidy

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My little brother has chronic immune and mobility problems. Without affordable insurance and protection for his pre-existing conditions, he will not be able to afford to finish getting his nursing degree so that he can help others. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Phoebe Cook

Harrisonburg, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear 2017 members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I'm sending this email today as a matter of record, in order to make clear my strong opposition to Senate Amendment 1030, the so-called Graham-Cassidy amendment to the American Health Care Act of 2017 (H.R. 1628). This amendment does not serve the interests of the vulnerable Americans who need health care assistance most. At least 77 (!) major medical professional associations have voiced their opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Even the insurance industry is opposed to it. If this bill does not serve health care providers, the insurance industry, or -- most of all -- American citizens, whom does it serve? I can only surmise that it serves only those who wish to negate the legacy of President Obama. Please do not allow this bill to pass the Senate and become law.

Signed,

Dr. Robin C. McCall
[REDACTED]
The College of William & Mary
[REDACTED]
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy-Heller

I am one of the lucky ones. I have paid into health insurance my whole life, and never had a serious illness, and only one serious injury. I did not resent "paying for other people's health care," because I knew that's the whole point of insurance.

Then this summer, I joined the ranks of cancer survivors. Again, I was relatively lucky; there's a very good chance my cancer is cured. But now I will forever have a major pre-existing condition. If Graham-Cassidy-Heller passes, and we return to a system where insurers make money by pricing riskier customers out of the market, I spend the rest of my life knowing that I have to hang on to my job to hang on to my health, in an economy where I can be laid off or have an employer go bust, and where it is harder and harder to get hired the older I get.

In addition to my own concerns, I had two friends of my own age who died of cancer a few years before the ACA passed. They both worked low-income jobs, with no employer-provided insurance. They couldn't afford to get their symptoms checked out when they were minor, and by the time they got bad enough that they had to spend the money to go to a doctor, it was too late. They would probably be alive today if we had had health care reform a few years earlier. I think of them every day we debate this issue. If you dismantle the ACA, and slash Medicaid, you are dooming countless others to their fate, and countless loved ones like me to more unnecessary mourning.

Please do not pass this bill.

Thank you,

Jim Edwards-Hewitt
Fairfax, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal the ACA

Hello!

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

As someone with a pre-existing condition, I fear that I will be denied an insurance plan that I can afford. My pre-existing condition is one that can happen to anyone regardless of age, race or gender. If it is left untreated, however, it can be fatal. As such, it requires monitoring which for someone without insurance, can be cost prohibitive. That monitoring also means that at some point, I would hit a ceiling on the amount of money that would be paid by an insurance plan.

The ACA is not perfect. But it does give someone like me, who works full time at a small company, the opportunity to purchase a health care plan that is reasonable and covers the life saving treatment I need. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Blyskal
Ashburn, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject the Graham Cassidy Bill

I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy bill- as a pediatrician for over 25 years, I am a witness to the benefits of healthcare for our most vulnerable. Children who are healthy, vaccinated, and thriving help all of our community. Their parents can be at work, the ERs are not bogged down by uninsured seeking crisis medical care, cancers are diagnosed earlier, and school children are healthier.

Do not accept less for Americans. Say NO to Graham Cassidy Bill.

Tamra Salvatore , MD

Herndon, Va

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare/ Obamacare

I am writing to oppose repeal of Obamacare. Instead of repealing the law that has expanded health insurance coverage to more Americans and has tried to get us all to band together to take care of each other, senators are considering another repeal effort. Their efforts favor the rich and employed at the expense of the poor, vulnerable, and unemployed. We all need health insurance and medical care. Our corporate model of health care, patched by federal programs is more expensive per person than healthcare in other industrialized countries and covers fewer of us. We should be looking at real reforms that cover us all at lower cost rather than cutting costs and leaving more people uncovered. Do not repeal Obamacare unless you really have a better plan to provide us all with healthcare access. Block grants and exclusions for pre-existing conditions is a cruel recipe for worse healthcare and leaving people vulnerable to bankruptcy if they have the bad luck to get seriously ill.

Jeff Hewitt
Arlington, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

The future of America's health is in your hands. Certainly the ACA needs tweaking. Our plan costs about the same now as it did in 2009, when my husband lost his job in the great financial meltdown, but our deductibles have doubled, with no co-pay.

The newest version of Trumpcare is not an appropriate answer. A seriously considered compromise is the avenue I hope you'll take.

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

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

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

Chris Bailey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Birmingham, Virginia 22903

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Merrill Boone
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Arlington, Virginia 22203

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The ACA has given me the ability to afford regular health care coverage and to seek help for my medical needs. I've suffered from mild depression and chronic pain for 15 years. I never sought medical help for these, fearing the cost of care and that my conditions would be a black mark on my medical record; causing me to lose care if I ever let my coverage lapse.

The ACA has allowed me, for the first time in my adult life (I am 48) to receive regular medical help. For the first time in my adult life, I have a regular primary care provider, because it only costs me \$35 copay to see a doctor. Prior to this, I would turn to home remedies for any illness I had. You may think those of us who have not had regular health care are an unhealthy lot; you may be surprised to find many of us to be exceptionally dedicated to caring for our health. It is the only option we have had.

Yes my deductible is high. I am thankful for my care regardless. I am just thankful to have the security of health care. I had Lyme disease this past year (I am an avid hiker). Thanks to my ACA coverage, I sought help for my symptoms and was treated before it became chronic. Even still, I was unable to work for 8 months and had significant medical bills. I am still thankful. If I had gotten Lyme disease prior to the ACA, I feel certain the disease would have progressed into a chronic case. I wouldn't have sought care until I was completely debilitated.

Please, you have quality health care with your jobs. The rest of us deserve that.

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

Sincerely,

Erin Osinkosky

Mt. Jackson, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

I want to register my strong objection to the current health care bill being proposed. It would not help the people it needs to help, and would hurt countless people. PLEASE work together to FIX the current healthcare system, which while far from perfect, has been helping people.

Deborah White
Chesapeake, Va. 23320

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

We need a serious bi-partisan effort to make needed improvements.
Susan Kennedy
Alexandria VA 22310

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham-cassidy

I have family members and friends with pre-existing conditions and I am concerned for their continued physical AND financial health.

I am a biostatistician. I am trained to impartially evaluate risk, correlation, causality and the like. Many pre-existing conditions occur as a result of NO FAULT of the patient -- a random mutation of DNA, an environmental exposure one has no control over, or other reasons. In addition, disease can strike anyone at anytime. These people should not be punished (or essentially sentenced to death) with exorbitantly high premiums for insurance. We must continue to make healthcare affordable for all -- not just the healthy.

Finally, this bill makes huge, huge cuts to Medicaid. 80% of the people who are beneficiaries of medicaid are children who have no control over their circumstances. It is UNCONSCIONABLE to take away these children's coverage. Another solution must be sought.

Sincerely
Genevieve Lyons, Charlottesville VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill

To whom it may concern:

I am a 23 year survivor of non-hodgkin's lymphoma plus 2 other cancers. I am well now but I have serious concerns for other patients that have long-term cancers. I was a working woman, taxpayer, and public servant throughout my career. The quest to kill "Obamacare" is pathological in intent and careless at the heart – especially as there is no replacement set in place.

If I was unhappy with my job and quit before finding another job, I would risk financial ruin and other social problems generated when I ran out of money. Because I was unemployed, it would be even harder to get another job. Questions would be asked – why did you leave your last job? So, I ask the Congress of the United States, why would you quit the ACA without a concrete replacement plan THAT IS BETTER? It is not logical.

The Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill gives States the right to take away critical protections to patients and families afflicted with lymphoma according to respected experts in the field, such as Bernard Tyson:

Initial analyses shows that the funding cuts would likely be passed onto patients by slashing ACA provisions, which help working Americans pay premiums and their out-of-pocket medical costs—and that it would burden people in poor health.

... Experts also note that repealing the individual mandate will lead to fewer people enrolled and increasingly higher premiums.

We are not aware of any healthcare organization supportive of the bill.

Questions:

- Will patients afflicted with lymphoma face a greater risk of medical bankruptcy in States that waive Essential Health Benefits?
- How many patients diagnosed with lymphoma will be unable to afford health insurance due to premium hikes?
- Has the committee calculated the loss of money contributed by working Americans (currently assisted by subsidies) who purchase insurance through the marketplace – who will no longer be able to do so?
- Has the committee calculated the impact on rural hospitals who will likely see a large increase in uncompensated care from uninsured Americans? Will these hospitals be forced to close? What will be the social and economic impact on the local communities?

- Is it possible to calculate the cost to our overall economic health when families who lose health insurance lose the ability to work and provide for their families due to delayed or lower-quality of healthcare?
- What will be the impact of repealing ACA on formation of new businesses which were fostered by the ACA marketplace (allowing entrepreneurs to try out their ideas without losing health insurance)?
- Please explain how the projected loss of young and fit people from the insurance pool (due to waiving mandate) will not lead to the so-called “death spiral”?
- Please explain the morality of a healthcare insurance policy that allows companies to raise rates if they get sick – given that as human beings this inevitable for all of us?
- Please explain why it’s okay to allow companies to intrude on lives of citizens by requiring disclosure of health information as a condition of providing a service?
- Please explain if the changes made under Graham-Cassidy will apply to the Senators? If the policy changes do not apply to them, please explain why.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY HEALTHCARE BILL.

Jama Beasley


Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH 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, Keith Rutt

Bayse, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham/Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

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

I have a family member with mental illness. With health coverage and the right medical care, he has a responsible job, lives on his own, and has a bright future. This is quite a contrast to the years when he couldn't leave his room or hold a job.

The difference is good medical care. Without, people are a drain on our economy vs paying taxes and a drain on families vs destroying families.

NAMI is against this bill as am I, as you should be if you care about helping families struggling with ill family members.

Please, kill this bill.

Jane Gurin
Vienna, VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Please do not pass the Cassidy Graham bill. Please choose the nation, particularly women, over party and reject a bill that will:

Drastically reduce funding to Medicaid....the lifeline for my disabled son.

Loosen protections for those with pre-existing conditions. I have asthma and have been on anti-depressants. Other members of my family are cancer survivors and diabetics.

Put women's health at risk by changing requirements for maternity care and not allowing women to make private choices about their reproductive health.

This bill will hurt those who are vulnerable in our nation...those with disabilities, pregnant women, low-income women and those with pre-existing conditions.

Please return to regular order and require that Congress work together to pass a bill that will positively impact most Americans and not tear the rug out from under their healthcare.

Kathy May
Richmond, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

The Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill, if passed into law, will result in disabled people having little or no help in healthcare. Their pre-existing conditions can be 'excluded' by the state in which they live. In order to receive even a modicum of care, they will end up in emergency rooms (if they live close enough), which causes those charges to be passed on to every patient, resulting in increased costs for everybody. In addition, the care they receive will be less targeted and less effective, resulting in more discomfort and shorter life expectancy.

My husband is self-employed. We have enjoyed the benefits of Obamacare for several years now. If forced to seek health insurance elsewhere, what happens if one of us has a pre-existing condition? We are priced right out of the healthcare market. Even if health care coverage is guaranteed, it will be cost-prohibitive.

Your proposed block grants would be less money than the total money that states are getting for Obamacare right now. Less money means less coverage, or alternatively, fewer people being covered. This is a step backwards. You are regressing, not progressing. Why can we not have a system like that in so many other developed nations that works fine? I do not know anyone who believes that it is ok for a child to forego a heart transplant in another state, for the few pennies it would cost each of us to cover it.

Under your proposed plan it is estimated that tens of millions of Americans will lose their health insurance. Count my relatively healthy family in that figure. More to the moral point, it is mostly people who are disenfranchised that will lose. These are the people we should be protecting most of all, not because they donate to your campaigns, but because they are human beings who may or may not be able to take care of themselves.

The list of organizations, healthcare providers, and insurance companies who are opposed to this bill is endless. These are smart people who know what they are talking about. These are groups that represent tens of thousands of Americans who will be adversely affected.

Medicaid covers people for far less than it might cost under private insurance. It is a lean system, but an efficient one, when compared to the profit-making of the private insurance sector. Cuts to the part of the healthcare system that is working efficiently is simply illogical. If anything, Medicaid should be expanding, and expanding, and expanding. Under your plan, states could dismantle or destroy so many of the Medicaid provisions. In my home state of Virginia, Medicaid funding is responsible not only for the health of our developmentally disabled community, but for their food and shelter as well. We still have 8,000 emergency cases outstanding on the waiting list. And you want to cut this funding more?!? Are any of you going to take care of these people? Or are you simply going to complain about the increase in the homeless population created by the loss of these

funds? My sister has Down Syndrome. She is also aging, which brings with it a host of medical issues. Which one of you are going to take care of her? How about her friends? How about all of the other people who are disabled through no fault of their own, who our society, as one of justice, and of mercy, and of humanity, should be taking measures to ensure that these people have their basic human needs met and a decent quality of life?

Finally, this bill does not stop states from simply using the federal money to take the place of other state spending. There is no guarantee that there will be any money from the block grants used for healthcare. Because of the state autonomy built into the program, redirecting the funds from a block grant will be easily done, to the detriment of every individual in that state.

I urge you to do away with this bill. If you must change Obamacare, improve it. Cover more people. Cover more healthcare. Do not go backwards. We deserve better.

In Peace,

Margaret DeTar-Lavallee

[REDACTED]
Smithfield, VA 23430
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

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

Sincerely,

Sarah Foote

Vienna VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: HEALTH BILL

PLEASE SAVE LIVES NOT DOLLARS!! I am care provider for 56 ear old MR person. She went into system around age 8, to Lynchburg Home, Lynchburg, Va. She is about the cognitive age of a 3 year old. She is blind in left eye and right eye is deemed a rolling eye. She has an uneven, exaggerated gait. Her coordination is very poor. After Lynchburg Home, she was shuffled to a nursing home, Western State Hospital (5 times) and several group homes, the last one having issues of its own. She has been in the home of my husband and I for 17 years. She needs constant care, constant supervision, as she also has aspiration issues and has been hospitalized several times for this issue. AND last year, and while giving, often 'round the clock care, a financial CUT WAS MADE TO ALL PROVIDERS! I just spent 4 days in hospital with this individual, slept very little and will be paid less than the government people making decisions, spend for one cup of coffee, per hour! GENTLEMEN-YOUR WIVES WOULD NEVER WIPE BUTTS FOR THIS POOR AMOUNT OF MONEY!!! And now you are planning to do even more harm to providers and those we care for!!! NOT TO MENTION, those with conditions far worse than ours. FOR SURE DONALD TRUMP HAS NO COMPASSION FOR ANYONE NOT IN HIS ELITE CIRCLE BUT YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO REPERSENT YOUR PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE OF THE U.S.! YOU ARE ACTUALLY NO BETTER THAN MANY RULERS WITH THEIR ETHIC CLEANING OF THOSE DEEMED LESS FORTUNATE!!! Count your money each night/check your health care and that of your family!! YOU WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO LIVE LIKE WE HAVE TO DO, BECAUSE OF YOU AND YOUR GREED!!! AMERICIA WILL NEVER BE GREAT AGAIN, WITH YOUR MIND SET!!!

I gladly add my name/address, BECAUSE I STAND FOR SOMWTHING GOOD!!! CAN YOU SY THE SAME???

Norma Sumner [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

I am a medical student, and the patients I work with rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Many of them did not have access to insurance due to their pre-existing conditions until the passage of the ACA, and the repeal by the Graham-Cassidy hearing would be devastating to their healthcare. We should be working together to find a way forward, not pushing a partisan bill that would leave millions of Americans without healthcare (and probably more, if the CBO had time to score it.) I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it

Sincerely,
Jaya Tripathi
Richmond, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

Good afternoon.

I would like to go on record as in total opposition to Graham/Cassidy. Any healthcare bill ever should be a bipartisan effort. We have a healthcare program in place and efforts to update and improve it should be ongoing forever. Why dump it and start over and in doing do strip healthcare from the most vulnerable in our country, children, the elderly and the disabled. Sheer stupidity. A false face on a movement to put money into the budget to allow tax cuts to the wealthy. Mean and shameful. A bipartisan effort to improve what we have in place should be the goal of Congress at this time. Thank you.

Jane Sprouse

[REDACTED]
Lynchburg VA 24503

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Dear members of the Finance Committee,

America needs healthcare. Please do not allow a vote on a bill that:

- 1. Medicaid directors from ALL 50 states have come out against,*
- 2. every patient group opposes,*
- 3. every provider group opposes,*
- 4. and, would cause upwards of 30 million people to lose their health coverage.*

Please include all members to work with what we have and make it better. Stop playing partisan politics with the Nation's healthcare.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Osborne
Fairfax, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't repeal the ACA

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

My husband and I own our own business. For years, I kept my corporate job almost solely for the insurance. Family circumstances (my mother developed Alzheimer's and had a stroke, and my father needed help caring for her) drove me to leave my job with that big corporation in 2001, and that's when our trouble with buying health insurance began. First of all, the only policies available to us all had much higher premiums than we were used to. And because there were no standards, my husband and I ended up going through a series of insurance policies from companies that would randomly decide that they wouldn't cover something. One insurance company got caught taking money but never paying any out, and the company merely stopped doing business in Virginia. We had a high-deductible (\$5,000 per person) policy with one company, and it refused to pay any part of my husband's medical costs when he fell off a ladder and shattered his scapula, to the tune of \$9,000. Fortunately, we were able to negotiate the costs with the hospital, but it meant that my husband was on his own where physical therapy and the rest of recovery was concerned. The ACA's standards of care and ease in comparing insurance policies made it so much easier for my husband and me to purchase our insurance with the assurance of a certain standard of care for the money. Since our business took a hit during the Great Recession and has never fully recovered, we also qualify for subsidies--a great help for small-business owners.

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

Sincerely,
Nancy Fitzgerald-Greene
Falls Church, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on repeal bill

Honorable Senators,

I have a son with disabilities. I have a daughter who may want a child one day. My wife and I have health care issues that this bill sees as pre existing conditions, allowing extreme premium increases.

This Graham-Cassidy "Health" bill is NOT about health! It is about money. Taking more money from me, destroying my budget. Or, if I'm not willing to go bankrupt, then an early death. Which will leave my family without income, and ultimately they will become bankrupt anyway.

Honorable Senators, please vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy "Health" bill.

Thank you,

Philip Myers
Newport News, VA.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Senators,

I understand that a hearing will soon be held on the Graham-Cassidy proposal. I just want to share my opinion with you.

The Graham-Cassidy proposal, as with the other recent proposals considered, does nothing to ensure universal coverage, which is what Congress should be working on now.

There are only two plans that would get my support: either a bipartisan enhancement and expansion of the Affordable Care Act, or Medicare For All as proposed by Rep. Conyers in the House and Sen. Sanders in the Senate. Anything less falls far short of what the American people want and deserve at this time.

Just for your information, the ACA helped me afford hip replacement surgery in 2015. Even though I was working full-time, I could not afford the copays and deductibles of my employer-sponsored insurance. So I took early retirement to have the surgery, the ACA was a bridge until I was eligible for Medicare, and that program is working wonderfully for me now.

A concerned citizen,
Marvellen Nealon,

[REDACTED]
Winchester, VA 22602

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Karen Oldaker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Centreville, Virginia 20121

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [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.

Paul DeCourt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Alexandria, Virginia 22301

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill

It is shameful that a nation as great as ours cannot figure out it out so that all Americans receive healthcare. Other developed countries have done it, why can't we put the best minds on it and work it out? I do, however, know this latest version of "healthcare" is not what I just mentioned. It is an embarrassment and you all should be ashamed if you support this.

Our goal should be affordable healthcare, NOT potentially skyrocketing premiums for those with pre-existing conditions (IF they can even find a company to insure them.) And to yank the safety net of Medicaid from our most vulnerable is just horrific. I think of my high school friend Casey Cebula Wink's daughter Emma and the needed services that Medicaid provides. It makes me sick to think of the impact on her young life without them.

I don't know how any of you can look in the mirror. I have three grown daughters and although I have grown weary in this seemingly never ending fight against merciless and heartless "healthcare" bills, I refuse to give up. I wouldn't be able to look at myself in the mirror if I let them down by not speaking out.

PLUS if this version is so great, why are you exempting yourselves from it? I read Consumer Report's and other sources analysis of what this bill really is and it stinks. As Representative Joe Kennedy has stated, "...maternity care, mental health treatment and prescription drugs as essential benefits for Congress, but not for the rest of Americans." Have you no shame, any of you? We need a big pool to draw from and it all evens out. Insure everyone or put yourselves out there on the open enrollment system as individuals. Pay for your own staff like any other private business, you know, just like the rest of us out there. I read what the National Association of Medicaid Directors had to say and I must say it doesn't sound good.

We Americans need you all elected officials in Congress to work together in a bipartisan manner and get our best people on this. We can and should do better. We must do better and this is NOT it.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Stephens Stringer
[REDACTED]
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

While my family has excellent healthcare, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill on behalf of those who don't. This is not the time to ram through a bill that will, in effect, strip many people of quality healthcare and deny it to others.

What we need is a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. It is time for divisiveness and highly partisan and political battles to be set aside and the concept of cooperation to be reintroduced into the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Sara Toyne

Fredericksburg, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing 9/25/17

- Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
- Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
- Comment by Alice McKay Cooper,
- [REDACTED], Winchester, VA 22602

This bill is harmful to some of our country's most vulnerable citizens: people who are born with developmental disabilities.

My daughter is 30 years old and has autism and serious intellectual deficits. She requires supervision 24-7. I, her mother, am in my 70s, a widow and have deteriorating health and no other close relatives. Because of Medicaid, my daughter was able to move out of our home this year and live with a sponsored residential provider. Finally I can move into an assisted living situation, which I greatly need at this point in my life, and find some peace of mind.

Graham-Cassidy promises to make deep cuts to basic Medicaid, eliminating federal support by 2026. I'll probably be dead by then, but I'm haunted by what will happen to my daughter. The idea that Medicaid will be handled by the states (and supposedly become more flexible) is scary. Currently the states get virtually half of Medicaid paid by the federal government, and even with this great assist, can't manage to implement acceptable programs. Thousands of needy people in my state are on waiting lists to receive Medicaid Waiver benefits. Those who do receive Medicaid Waiver benefits have bare subsistence. This is not a life anyone would choose, but we're grateful for it nonetheless.

Give me and other elderly parents peace of mind. Give our children the safety and security they require.

This bill is hurtful. First do no harm.

Sincerely, Alice McKay Cooper

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Jim Lynch
Subject: Testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing (25 Sept 2017)

Mister Chairman and members of the committee;

I and my family depend 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.

Members of my family are fortunate to have quality employer supported health insurance. But this could change tomorrow. An unfortunate accident or illness and we will be out of work and out of insurance. And we will be depending on the Affordable Care Act or some like it (and hopefully even better than the ACA, as some have promised).

So I would ask that you not rush through a bill that so blatantly is worse than the ACA. As Senator McCain has noted: return to regular order, hold hearings, take your time to get it right, and produce a plan that is a demonstrable improvement over the ACA: covers everyone, quality health care better than required by the ACA, lower premiums.

Very respectfully,

James P. Lynch
[REDACTED]
King George, VA 22485



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Please do not vote for or pass the graham Cassidy Heath care proposed bill. I have a daughter that is going to turn 26 and will be buying her own insurance soon. She is still not out of school and is pursuing her masters degree. She can barely pay her bills and school bills now when she is on our insurance. She also has a pre-existing condition and I fear that she won't be able to get insurance or pay for it with this proposed bill.

Gwen Dinkins
Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My daughter relies on her marketplace health insurance through the ACA for quality, affordable healthcare. She, like many others, is mostly self employed, and works very hard. In addition to her self employment positions in a couple of different fields, she also has a part time job but it does not offer health insurance. It is only because of the ACA that she has health insurance. If you rip this away from her she will lose her health insurance altogether or the premiums because of pre-existing conditions would be unaffordable. Because of Amy and millions like her, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please, work together for the good of the people who have elected you.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Northup

Luray, VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I do NOT support Graham-Cassidy bill

I cannot begin to imagine who in the Senate thinks it'd be right to vote on a bill that affects 1/6 of the US economy, without a CBO score or knowing how it will play out. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. It's not perfect, but it's got some pretty awesome aspects - let's enhance them, not blow things up.

Lara Larson
[REDACTED]

South Riding VA 20152

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My entire family has a number of preexisting conditions that would make it impossible for us to be insured if this bill passed. My mother is a cancer survivor. My father had a stroke just days after he received his Medicare card and would have had difficulty receiving adequate care without it.

In addition to my family's needs, I am also worried about my clients. I am a social worker whose agency services close to 1,400 individuals with special needs throughout the country. Most rely on Medicaid for valuable, life-saving medical services. If they lose access to health care, they will die. I cannot let that happen.

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

Sincerely,

Edva Kashi, MSW

Henrico, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GRAHAM-CASSIDY HEALTHCARE BILL

I strongly oppose this rushed healthcare bill; please do not let this become the law of the land. It is so wrong when the nation who should be leading the world in healthcare for its citizens is intentionally doing harm to those who need assistance the most. Please do not let this pass.

I do support all bipartisan efforts to improve the ACA.

JoAnn M. Clark

[REDACTED]
Cape Charles, VA 23310

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:05 PM
To: gchcomments; Mary
Subject: Please vote AGAINST Graham-Cassidy!

> Please help the tens of millions of us who want to KEEP and IMPROVE the Affordable Care Act. Please vote against Graham-Cassidy! Help to defeat it! Lives and families are literally depending on you!

>
> Thank you.

>
> Best Wishes,
> Mary Bartone

> [REDACTED]
> Woodbridge, VA 22192

>
>
> Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Preserve needed treatments for Americans with mental illness

I have worked in the field of community mental health treatment for many years. Americans with serious mental illness depend on Medicaid for treatment and other essential benefits. A nation is judged by how it cares for its most vulnerable groups. We must continue to ensure that these Americans receive needed care and avoid homelessness and incarceration – costly outcomes of untreated serious mental illness.

Constance Gartner
Falls Church, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

Sincerely,
John Pickard
Greenwood, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Charles Frost

[REDACTED]
Vienna, VA 22181
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH public testimony

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

My children have pre-existing conditions, chiefly asthma. My husband and I, as we age, have developed conditions that require ongoing treatment -- herniated disk, torn labrum, etc. Putting the pre-existing conditions coverage at risk -- as this bill would do by allowing states to permit higher rates -- would affect our ability to afford the healthcare we need. My husband is a veteran who has served his country in Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan. He and I both work at careers that make our nation and the world better. We are conscientious citizens who love our country and contribute to our communities, and we are raising our children to be the same. However, even with two incomes, we can not be sure of affording sufficient coverage if rates for pre-existing conditions are allowed to skyrocket.

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

Sincerely,
Jenny Roahen Rizzo
Arlington, Virginia 22205

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions, affordability, and being a woman, is that it's difficult to wait until a pre-existing condition is resolved to receive health insurance for anything else. I currently have the highest deductible my insurance will allow, and pray that I don't have a lot of little things I need covered throughout the year that I can't afford. And I find it ridiculous that birth control is not covered, but erectile dysfunction drugs are. That the cost of having a baby might mean that child's lifetime cap would be reached before she is even a toddler. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please do what's right for the majority of Americans. It shouldn't come down to someone making money off of someone else's ability to stay healthy.

Sincerely, Bonny Branch

Roanoke, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:55 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.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Paul Hartwell (Desmoid Tumor Survivor) and Charmel Menzel

Mr. Paul Hartwell

[REDACTED]
Springfield, VA 22151
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Because of our access to affordable health care, my father-in-law, who my husband and I care for, was able to receive treatment for his Hepatitis C. He is now completely cured, whereas otherwise he would have died from the rapidly advancing cirrhosis of his liver. We would never have been able to afford the up \$95,000 treatment. Without this treatment, he'd be dead. I'd like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Americans have a right to affordable, quality healthcare. They don't deserve to die because they can't afford it.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Mikszan

McLean, Va

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jake Krishnan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jake Krishnan

[REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 9

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice Lynn [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Alice Lynn
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Dav [REDACTED] et>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Cathy Davis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Traute Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Committee:

Passing this bill would be a tremendous insult to the American people. Please vote NO. In a Democracy like ours, we must make health care available to ALL, not only the wealthy who can pay. The best thing we have so far is Obamacare. Until we are able to enact a SINGLE PAYER PLAN FOR ALL, let's keep the ACA.

Donald and Traute Moore

Quail Run Vineyards

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebekah Engle [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is not the fix we need

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

As a teacher, I see many families that rely on Medicaid or they would go without healthcare. Children who do not get quality healthcare do not do as well in school, on tests, or in life. We owe it to our children to give them the best possible start in life so they can have the tools necessary to rise above their situation of birth.

Yes, the ACA has some problems, but they are not insurmountable. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, or come up with a real American creative solution to a single payer system that goes further and works better than any other of the hundreds of countries that use it today. I think you can do this, my countrymen! Don't let us down!

Sincerely,
Rebekah Engle
Salem, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leland Hall [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Leland Hall
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John R. Bartels [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

John R. Bartels
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kapa Design [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/ Cassidy Healthcare Bill.

Dear Committee members,
There are many reasons to oppose this bill. I will name some of them now.

1. People with pre-existing conditions will be affected negatively. Their premiums will skyrocket so that they can not afford to pay insurance.

This basically means that pre-existing conditions will not be covered. I am 59 years old, am self-employed, and have asthma. Right now I am covered.

The medication is \$400/month. But that's another issue. At my age, I need insurance. My chances of becoming ill are higher than a younger person.

Under GCH bill, I may be excluded from affording or getting health insurance.

Another example. My niece, Beth, was diagnosed with a slow growing brain tumor 7 years ago. After several surgeries, the tumor seems to be in remission.

But, because of the surgeries, she now has debilitating depression that comes on and off, similar to bi-polar disorder. She holds onto a job, barely.

And has to live with her parents. She is 33. What would happen to her?

2. This bill basically bribes the republican states that opted out of Medicaid expansion to get it through block grants. This money would come from the states that

had chosen to help their poor by getting Medicaid funding. This is a sneaky and sleazy way to pass legislation. And in the end, Medicaid funding will end in the future. This bill cuts Medicaid funding.

I am opposed to that. Take my niece, Once her parents die, how will she be able to get healthcare if not through Medicaid? It seems that the republicans

basically want the poor, elderly, and sick to just die.

3. This bill basically wants to treat healthcare as a pro-profit insurance, like car insurance or house insurance. This premise is WRONG! Healthcare should be

subsidized by the government. It is a basic right. Not a privilege for people who are born healthy, or into wealthy families, or are just lucky.

This bill is heartless. It basically takes money from the poor. Then they want to give this money to the rich. Everyone sees this game.

Fix the problems with ACA. Not gut it. People want healthcare for everyone. I support expanding Medicare to everyone or a single payer system. Take the profit out of healthcare.

Get rid of the middle man.

Thank you.

Kapa Korobeinikov
Corvallis, Oregon.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [kapa.com](mailto:kapa@kapa.com)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christina Buck [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@seasideoregon.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Christina Buck
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Seaside, Oregon 97138

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] m
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony about Healthcare

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

My husband and I work hard to support our family but this current bill could put healthcare out of reach for us as professionals with college educations. My husband and daughter both have pre-existing conditions and given the loopholes that would allow states to decide whether to allow them or not, we could lose healthcare or have it be so expensive it is beyond our reach. They would be without life saving medications and care. Since mental health care also appears to be on the chopping block and my husband suffers with mental health issues that are life threatening this is also a huge worry for our family. This could be very devastating for us.

My husband and I are both employed, he as a professional for a nearby city and myself as a director of student ministries, if healthcare would be unattainable or a huge burden for us, it would be impossible for others who haven't had the good fortune and opportunities we have been given.

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

Sincerely,
Heather Hellman
Beaverton, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Berklee Robins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Berklee Robins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Richard Hughes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 5716

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aaron Morris [REDACTED] m>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Aaron Morris
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jean DeVenney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL THE ACA - HEALTHCARE

People who have no insurance through their employers, have pre-existing conditions, or have diseases that have been caught early and treated because of the screening tests authorized by the ACA benefit hugely from healthcare the way it is. People in this country need and deserve consistent, standardized, quality, affordable healthcare, not a patchwork from state to state. 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,

Jean DeVenney

Eugene, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marsha Barr [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care

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.

It is a travesty that the USA stands out in the Western World as the only country that does not protect its people with reliable, affordable healthcare.

It is also shameful that our Democracy is so flawed that people in Congress can no longer work together for the good of the nation.

Sincerely, Marsha Barr

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Geoffroy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid story

I urge the Finance Committee to understand fully the ramifications of cutting back on Medicaid dollars under the proposed, rushed and ill-conceived "healthcare" legislation the senate is considering.

These cuts will devastate families of kids and adults with disabilities. The Oregon K-Plan, which is Medicaid expansion, has been a godsend to our family. The hours of supports my daughter with Down syndrome receives ensure that she can engage in her community more easily and continue to gain self-care and life skills such as money management, transit access, learning safe routes to and from school and getting to the library. Oregon Health Plan is her secondary insurance, and we feel relieved to know that medical services she needs like heart scans and prescriptions to treat her thyroid condition are covered and not subject to a discriminatory pre-existing clause.

For other kids, the difference that Medicaid has made in their lives is as stark as a life of isolation and institution vs the ability to remain at home with their families and get needed medical care where they are surrounded by loved ones.

My daughter exists. She does not pre-exist. Every family, regardless of the means to pay, should be able to count on a baseline of care that does not discriminate. I am especially talking to legislators who claim to support the sanctity of life. If that's honestly the case, then you owe it to families like mine to show respect for my daughter's life and her desire for community, education and work throughout her full life.

Amy Geoffroy
[REDACTED]

--
[REDACTED]

Please do the right thing here. Protect life. Protect the lives in my very own home. Vote against this bill.

Duana Welch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Duana Welch [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
Full Name: Duana C. Welch
Address: [REDACTED]

Dear Senators of the Finance Committee:

My daughter was born with Type 1 diabetes, a condition that is dangerous and has no cure. With insulin and other supports, she can live a long, healthy life and serve our society well. But I'm worried. Because the Graham-Cassidy health bill can actually kill her.

In fact, my daughter was denied health insurance as a toddler. I was then a single mom. I had a job, but it did not provide any benefits; and her father was too ill to work. I was told to spend down all my income, lose my house, lose my car, stop working—and THEN I could have health insurance for my child, in the form of Medicaid. I was outraged that I was expected to become non-productive, impoverished, and homeless in order for my child to have any chance at life. Fortunately, the ACA passed before I became the exact opposite of the American Dream.

The new bill isn't good enough! In fact, it's dangerous. It means skyrocketing premiums for families like mine. When people can't pay, they will die. This is immoral and deeply wrong—and so unnecessary.

My own child is a science star, as her father once was, and because of the Republican's relentless efforts to eliminate her healthcare, she is already looking into colleges in other countries. Keep in mind that her health condition is not considered a liability in any other developed nation, and that they all have national health systems that work. ALL OF THEM. Shame on our nation—on our leaders, really—for prompting even the thought of leaving America and making almost any other country more desirable as a home for my only child.

You're on the Finance Committee. Does it make sense, economically, for our best and brightest to move to other countries? To speak ill of the nation that would not care for them? You know it does not. This bill represents the sun setting on America's greatness.

The new bill also introduces severe Medicaid cuts. This is weird because Medicaid is not even part of the ACA. Truly, the bill that's up for your vote now is selling the lives of the poor so the richest can benefit—it's a tax break for the already-wealthy. Again, is this who you want to be?

And it's an attack on women's healthcare. Data show that when women can access free contraception, abortion rates decline. The reverse is also true. This bill guarantees an increase in abortions because it eliminates a major source of free contraception. I am not in favor of abortions! I am in favor of preventing the need for them!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dean [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham/Cassidy, yes on debate and informing the public!

Dear Senator.

Voting on any important bill with huge ramifications (both in terms of finance and human life) without debate AND without a CBO score is not only irresponsible, but a dereliction of duty of the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee.

Is the Graham/Cassidy bill so weak it cannot stand up the scrutiny of simple daylight to see what is in the bill, inform the public about it, and learn about its true costs?

Please consider the public and their right to know what this bill truly entails and how it affects us all.

Sincerely,
Thomas Dean Lake
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: terri kraemer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: 'terri kraemer'
Subject: Vote no on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear members of the Finance Committee,

I am writing this testimony for submission to the Committee regarding the Graham-Cassidy Bill ("Bill"). I urge you to vote NO on this Bill.

I live in Oregon and need private insurance for a few years until Medicare coverage begins. Given my age it is not surprising that I have pre-existing conditions. Until recently I have not worried about getting health insurance because the Affordable Care Act assured I'd be able to do so. Now, you are voting on a Bill that completely undoes that assurance. A bill that would make it nearly impossible for me to get insurance at an affordable rate if at all. A bill that will hit Oregonians and other Americans extremely hard.

What does that mean to an older adult or anyone with a pre-existing condition? What does that mean to children born with a medical condition? To anyone with a chronic disease or with cancer or with diabetes? It means a potential death sentence. It means deciding between health care and food and shelter. It means the wealthy will never suffer and the poor and middle class are simply dispensable Americans who should suffer because ? Why? Because we have a Congress that puts profit over people's lives? That cannot bring itself to compromise and negotiate in good faith and in a transparent manner to assess and fix our health care system?

It is unconscionable to me that Congress is not working on a bipartisan approach to improving / fixing the Affordable Care Act. That is the message that we Americans have sent to Congress over and over again this year. This Bill before this committee is not a fix nor is it an improvement.

Roll up your sleeves, bring constituents to the table, bring market stakeholders to the table, have open and transparent dialogue and debate over how to fix our current health care / insurance system. Our country is still a democracy so please start acting like a Congress that respects that.

Please, vote no on the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Thank you,

Teresa Kraemer
Lake Oswego, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Kurzweil [REDACTED] <>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Save the ACA
Attachments: image1.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Hello. My name is Emily Kurzweil and I live in Portland, OR. My six year old niece, Eleanor, has Cystic Fibrosis and has been lucky enough to have lived most of her life under the ACA. Eleanor takes dozens of pills a day, has to do breathing treatments on respirators twice a day and needs to have her health constantly monitored in order to live the somewhat normal life of a first grader. Without the ACA she would be denied health coverage because of her preexisting condition or exceed her lifetime limit on care and need to find a new insurer (or her parents would have to). Her life depends on the ACA. Without it her parents and or extended family would not be able to afford her medications, doctor's visits or potential lung transplants. Please remember the young, innocent and vulnerable kids who will be the victims of Graham Cassidy and repealing the ACA. It is a death sentence to take away Eleanor's health insurance. I beg you to keep the ACA and save Eleanor's life.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Candyce [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller Amendment

This proposed bill would end Medicaid as we know it, and strip benefits from millions of Americans. Here in Oregon we stand to lose \$6.6 million in federal healthcare funding by 2027 if this bill passes. That would put 400,000 Oregonians who rely on Oregon's Medicaid program, the Oregon Health Plan, at risk of losing their life-saving coverage. This is NOT an acceptable situation.

I join the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, AARP, American Health Insurance Programs, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association, and a myriad of others who strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller plan. You are endangering the lives of many Americans if this bill passes, especially with higher premiums for those with pre-existing conditions.

Please, just leave the ACA alone! If anything, work to improve upon it in a bi-partisan way.

Candyce Armstrong

[REDACTED]

weeks of paid vacation, and even tax payer funded campaigns and lawyers, at least without concrete progress and results. It's absolutely incredible that you think anyone believes what you say on Fox and Friends, or your lie spinning on major networks. Your party are like those scam artists that call old people and make them believe that they owe money to some African prince far away. You are not Christians, or God-fearing, you spout the teachings of history and of Jesus as if they belong only to you. And you believe yourselves. It's clearly a psychological issue. Maybe if you all felt fear, had empathy, and practiced the teachings of equality and social justice that are embedded clearly in your religions, we might be able to make America great.

Not again, because it's never been great, (unless you are white and male). America will not be great until we remove money from politics, and hold politicians accountable when they enact and support sexist racist agendas. It will never be great without forward progress, without legislation that clearly benefits the most helpless and needy in this country.

You work for Americans-young and old, black, white, brown, and tan, Christians, Muslims, Mexicans, refugees, children, women, gay and lesbians, trans people, ALL people. You work for the benefit of ALL PEOPLE!

This Republican gas-lighting reminds me of when I was a child and my parents were fighting over custody for me. In reality the tug-of-war for me, was only about who was going to pay child support. It had nothing to do with me, who wanted me, or who thought they'd be the best caregiver for me. It was all about money. In the same way, Republicans are not worried about the child in this situation, the American people, you want to get reelected, to dismantle anything President Obama accomplished, and to get paid by your insurance and prescription drug donors. If I'm wrong, stop taking their money. If I'm wrong, stop hiding behind catch phrases and cliché quotes about history and religion and start governing for the less fortunate, the sick, the elderly and the dying. Stop going on Twitter to do official business, stop going on network TV to dodge questions and to lie. Go sit in a room with all parties, and comb day and night over evidence and statistics and processes and systems of healthcare, and figure out how to make it work the best way for ALL people in this country.

I don't know how many of you have been put in a situation where you have to call and sit on the phone for hours and hours on end because the cost of your medication went up 150% in three weeks. I don't know how many of you have had to look at your stack of bills for the month, and you have a child who has a life-threatening illness and have to decide between medications because one is \$50, one is \$600, and one is \$15,000. When was the last time you couldn't afford to see a doctor? If these have never happened to you, and you don't understand these issues, then you have no business making legislation about a system that you clearly are too dumb or lazy or self-righteous to get.

It is mind blowing and that you all are not addressing the real problems in our system, and you are, once again, simply passing the buck. That is all this-"we're gonna pass it on to the states; we're going to scapegoat again; we're gonna blame women and children and people that don't have enough money to get by for all of our problems. We are going to put the blame for our problems on the people with the least amount of wealth and power." This is the mantra of most Republicans now.

These are real people's lives, and we don't have time for this. I don't have time to call and email my senators to micromanage them. You have one job, represent the people, listen to the people, look at the evidence, statistics, and the experts, (yeah even the non Christian non Republican ones) to create a system that works for everyone.

Why can't you be an example for the children and young adults who would look at you and go "You know what? I want to get into politics, and be like this politician or that politician." In reality, what you're doing is inspiring a whole generation of politicians to go, "I want to get into politics so that I never ever act like these Republican idiots, so this will never ever happen again." You fools will go down in history as some of the worst, most corrupt, most pompous politicians in US history.

Keep it up Republicans. Please keep it up. This way, you guarantee that you will never be reelected, and give way to a new party to rise up in your place. The American people know that you ultimately only care about two things: how much money you have in your bank and reelection. Proof in point, your own president is out campaigning for a someone tonight, instead of working for the people.

You are working in a house of cards that is going to fall any day now. Your president is under multiple investigations into corruption, money laundering, treason, collusion, fraud, money mishandling etc. I could go on. Not only are you going to kill millions of people in this country with this legislation, but this will ultimately be the end of the Republican Party. Your president is about to get impeached, even possibly face jail time, along with many others in and around the White House, so I suggest to the Republican party-get your ducks in a row. The shit is about to go down; you better be ready. Start with a win for the American people that need the win, not the rich white guys, and maybe a few of you will be able to squeak in a win in 2018.

Sincerely,

Ramey Wells
West Linn, Oregon

failing him right now, it's his insurance company. Now he's calling United Healthcare about his prescription drug prices every month. Insulin, needles, blood testing strips, medications that keep him alive rising 150% in three weeks. He's even had to work out deals with his pharmacy where instead of using his insurance, he just pays the guy behind the counter cash, and he gets his medications for \$25 instead of \$350. I'm not sure you want a black market for insulin to spring up, but it's happening. I've seen this transaction with my own eyes!

And he's a life long Republican! And he's a Trump supporter! I listen to him complain about ACA, and remind him that without ACA he'd be dead. He says he doesn't care. But you know what Republican politicians, I care. My dad is the only parent I have left. He raised me when my mom split when I was two. He is the reason I dream big; left home for college, and never looked back. He's part of the reason I'm sane and alive. And the ACA is the only reason he's sane and alive today. My son's only living grandfather; it is important to our family he's alive and healthy. He's alive and healthy and thriving because of ACA. Yes, it needs to be fixed, no one denies that, but this legislation will make his life worse, more expensive, and less healthy and safe, perhaps even leading to his death. A lost vote for you.

Ultimately both my sister and my father, will most likely fall into some other government welfare program. This legislation is literally just passing the buck on down the road, so you can say you "repealed and replaced" Obamacare. It's not a matter of if you will pay for these poor people, it's a matter of when. And I think you all know this.

The only thing the American people can do right now, is to make inferences about this legislation and the motivation behind it, based on our background knowledge and based on evidence. So based on the evidence that you have had zero ideas, or plans, or strategy other than repeal, we can conclude you do not want us all to thrive and survive. You want only a few people of a certain type or class to gain access to the American Dream. In fact, we can make the inference now that the Republican Party is holding the American Dream hostage.

You have written zero legislation that that has one single positive benefit for the working class, or the people who live in poverty in this country. You have brought nothing to the table to help people in this country. The only thing this president has said, that I actually believe and agree with is, "I thought I'd walk into the Oval Office on day one, and there'd be this beautiful piece of healthcare legislation on my desk ready for me to sign." You all had years to figure this out. You had a president campaigning on that very premise, and yet you brought him NOTHING? And then you Hail Mary it at the last minute multiple times?

You have no solutions, you have no ideas, and you have no intention of helping Americans gain quality healthcare. You want to leave us up to the mercy of insurance providers who pay your bills. You care more about protecting my gun rights, than you do about helping me see a doctor when I'm sick.

It's not a Christian and it is not an American value. It's the further dismantling of our social and moral contract with our government. You take 35% of my paycheck and you tell me you can't be involved in healthcare? But you can be involved in constant war, and constant fear mongering about immigrants, you want us living in polluted, flooded, dirty streets, just to prove that poor and brown people live like animals. Is that what you really want? Are you really the Christians who think that because you are white men, you are made in the image of Jesus and God? This is no different than Sharia law, and we are calling you out. You are the liars, and you have made our country the laughing stock of the world. You should bow your heads in shame, resign, go home, and volunteer at a school or that church you love so much. Maybe you will learn something about empathy. You are a disgrace, and a shameful display of the worst in our country's history. You represent the lowest denomination of people, those who have allowed greed and pride to rule over truth and honesty and progress. If I'm wrong, I'd love to see evidence to the contrary. There is no evidence that you care about what might make America great. You only care about your own personal greatness, lining your pockets, and getting a 5 minute spot on TV.

All you bring to our government are lies, corruption, and now possibly treason. You don't care about the millions of us that are considered "preexisting conditions" who WILL be charged more or even dropped from insurance altogether depending on which state we live in. States already have had an opportunity to expand coverage, and look at all the states that denied their citizens access. Do you think now they will have a change of heart?

Even Mike Pence said that preexisting conditions are not guaranteed to be fully funded or covered. On Fox and Friends when asked the very direct question about this issue, he said, "Thomas Jefferson himself said, 'Less Government is Better Government.'" He was not asked a philosophical question about the role of government, he was asked whether people like my father, my sister, my nephew, my grandmothers, my mother, my aunts, my uncles, my son, and myself would be covered or allowed a fair price for insurance and prescriptions. He dodged the question like the fake Christian coward he is-which leaves the American people to infer that the answer is, in fact, no! The only person this ACA repeal replace nonsense does not impact is my white male husband. He's the only member of my family who could have the opportunity to fairly priced insurance. So when the only benefactors of a piece of legislation are white men, the rest of us have to infer, you don't care about anyone other than the white male.

It is always corporate profit over people for Republicans. We know the Koch brothers and other donors have said that they will not donate to you anymore until you get rid of ACA. It's because a Democrat made it, so you can't support it. What a bunch of childish cowardice! You'd all be fired from your jobs out in the real world. The real world that doesn't allow for life time paid benefits, and

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ramey Bosch [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Make the smart choice

Did we all read the legislation?
How much would this cost?
What are the benefits?
What do our opponents say it will do?
Will it do that? If it's bad, shouldn't we fix it?
What do the experts say?
Do the benefits outweigh the costs? Do the costs outweigh the benefits?
Why this bill? Why right now?

These are just a few of the many questions that any piece of legislation before the Senate and House should face at minimum. Especially when that legislation impacts 1/6 of our nation's economy.

What does Aetna and United Healthcare want us to do?
Have the Koch brothers lost my email and phone number?
How much does my lobbyist from "any insurance company" want to contribute to my campaign?
Did a Democrat write it? If they did, then I will oppose it.
How many votes will I need to win in "pick any county" to get reelected?
Will this legislation win me those votes?

These are the questions currently considered in a Republican Congress and White House as they create legislation.

Why don't you want to find the best possible solution Americans?

I'm not going to tell you my party affiliation because that doesn't matter.

What does matter is who this legislation is going to impact; Democrats and Republicans, rich and poor, those who couldn't afford insurance before the Affordable Care Act, those mandated to buy insurance because of the Affordable Care Act, those who kept their insurance because the Affordable Care Act, and those who were allowed to expand and change their insurance because the Affordable Care Act.

Who are those people? Do you know them? Do you know their stories? Don't forget about us, don't ignore us, because we are millions of registered voters.

If you move on this legislation instead of fixing the problems with the ACA, a vote Democrats gain is my sister's, because my sister never voted, and now she is pissed and a registered Democrat. The vote you lose escaped a domestic violence relationship after she got insurance through ACA; she was finally able to independently see a doctor who provided her with the tools she needed to finally divorce her abusive husband, get my nephew professional psychological help, and get herself help as well. I don't know how much longer either of them could have survived without ACA. She'd be on welfare and disability right now. In fact, ACA kept her off welfare and disability. So in fact, it saved the government money.

Her husband never kept a job long enough to get insurance benefits. And in Lewis County Washington, there are not a lot of jobs with benefits for women with a high school diploma. My sister has made some seriously crazy and dumb decisions in her life, but one thing is clear, the smartest thing she's done in a while, was to sign up for ACA when it first started, and go to her first doctor's appointment in 10 years. In addition to receiving help for her own personal life, she was able to get tested and receive treatment for the very thing that killed her father at age 49. She's a real person; a mother; a taxpayer. She matters, even though she's a woman, and she's poor. She matters too.

Another vote you lose is my father's. He is on Medicare and also has to carry supplemental insurance to cover prescription costs. Prior to ACA, he would never have qualified for affordable health insurance without the aid of an employer. He wasn't 65 at the time of his disability, and he wasn't able to work, or afford Cobra (which prior to ACA was the ONLY option for folks with a little money but no insurance). ACA kept him alive, kept us from going bankrupt trying to pay for his personal medical expenses. However, it isn't ACA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Adrienne Santina [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller could be a death sentence for me

Dear honorable members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am terrified that the Graham-Cassidy-Heller legislation will pass the Senate. This bill weakens protections for people with pre-existing conditions and, if it comes to pass, conditions such as pregnancy, delivery via C-section, and depression could be classified as pre-existing conditions. I am a 46-year old woman who has been pregnant, who delivered my son via C-section, and who has suffered from depression. This bill could be devastating for people like me; it would have a disastrous effect on a majority of American women who would be disproportionately penalized by these changes.

Scary as all of this is for me, what is most worrisome is my recent change in health status. I was diagnosed with breast cancer in March of 2017. I know I am one of the lucky ones, however, because I have health insurance through my husband's employer. I had a mastectomy in May and am now cancer-free. However, breast cancer will undoubtedly be classified as a pre-existing condition under the changes proposed by GCH. What am I supposed to do if my insurance decides to raise my premiums, my deductible, and my copayments because I'm a cancer survivor? What if the cap on my out-of-pocket expenses is removed? How much are my husband and I expected to pay for insurance coverage to be prepared for the terrible possibility that my cancer returns? The situation is even more dire for women with metastatic breast cancer.

I know that GCH requires states to ensure that "adequate access" to healthcare is available to Americans with pre-existing conditions. But, GCH does not indicate a standard as to what constitutes "adequate access." A state might determine that an unaffordable massive increase in premiums, deductibles, and copayments constitutes "adequate access." I am terrified that passage of the GCH would make insurance coverage unaffordable for me and my family. If I can no longer afford health insurance, my mortality increases. Passage of GCH could very well mean a shorter life and an excruciating death for me.

Please do not allow Graham-Cassidy-Heller to advance through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Santina
McMinnville, OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Jean [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to ACA Repeal Bill!!!

I am a legal citizen of Oregon and I am completely outraged by the latest GOP ACA repeal bill—the Graham-Cassidy-Heller Amendment. It will end Medicaid as we know it, and it will remove a woman's right to terminate a medically necessary pregnancy. I am a very healthy active senior and cost the healthcare system little to nothing, but this bill it will cost me and my cohorts far more in premiums than we can afford. This is not right! This Congress has no end to their cruelty. How is this good for our nation?! How is this good for families?! This is inhumane and certainly not the values of the vast majority of this country. It isn't even sound economic sense. We are counting on you to save our healthcare. Please do everything you can to keep this bill from coming to a vote before time has run out.

Thank you

Deborah Lang

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KENNETH R ANDERSON <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators:

This bill is cruel and the opposite of serving the public. It will harm millions of Americans to benefit already rich political donors.

Please VOTE NO.

Kenneth Anderson
Portland, OR

It is important that I explain my story, so that you can understand the weight of President- Elect Trump's decisions regarding the Affordable Care Act. Under the changes he wishes to make, patients who suffer from Hereditary Angioedema could be left untreated, in what would absolutely turn into a life or death situation. I'd like to discuss elements of the Affordable Care Act, and what repealing them would look like to a patient in my situation:

Prohibition on discrimination against preexisting conditions - more and more patients are being diagnosed with HAE earlier now, including many childhood diagnosis. HAE can be detected by a C1 esterase count after the age of one. That means that any child diagnosed with HAE at a year old could never lapse insurance, or they would be uninsurable with a pre-existing condition. To deny patients because of a pre-existing condition is wrong on so many fundamental and moral levels.

Limitations on annual and lifetime caps - as with many devastating disabilities, HAE can run up medical bills. Between hospital stays, emergency room visits, clinical visits, home health nurses and treatment, some patients may hit a lifetime cap. Can you imagine that, only because you had to treat your disability, you put yourself over the lifetime insurance cap and your policy was discontinued? No more insurance, no more treatment, no more life. Not only does this affect the medical coverage and care that a person can receive, it could also make them choose whether or not to treat themselves for fear of meeting a lifetime cap and not being able to obtain medical insurance for future needs.

Insurance availability for young adults - we no longer live in a time where kids left the home at 18 to get jobs with employer paid insurance. Our younger generation is going to college and staying in college longer than any of us did. Many have part time jobs that offer no insurance. Allowing insurance availability for young adults to stay on their parent's plans keeps our younger generation healthy, active, working, and contributing to society.

Daily, I reflect on how fortunate I am – to be alive, to have access to medication that has literally saved my life, to be truly living. Believe me when I say “truly living” and all that that entails. My life continues because of the system set in place, because of the protections of the Affordable Care Act. Repealing this act, or even removing key components, would prove devastating to not only my own life, but so many others. There is no price on human life.

Please do not repeal the ACA. Please keep our protections in place. I beg of you. All I want to do is live to see my daughter grow, enjoy my career, love my husband, for as long as I possibly can.

Sincerely,
Mary K. Graham

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Graham [REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fighting for my life - ACA

There is a memory I have tucked in my brain that comes out especially on days I feel like giving up. It reminds me of the gift of life, the reason I am here, and how quickly it can all be taken away. It is a memory I reflect on because, without it, I wouldn't be who I am today. In my memory, I am twelve, in a doctor's office. I'm sitting in a chair, my feet are on the floor, and my left hand is holding my right hand - it is swollen so large I can't move my fingers. The doctor seems to speak almost in slow-motion as he tells my mother "it may be Hereditary Angioedema." Testing followed, years of hospital stays, emergency room visits, and the realization that I was very different from the rest of the people I knew.

Pivotal moments happen for us in life, at different times, along our journey. That was the beginning of my journey. Up until then, I lived life normally, and after that, I was no longer just Mary, I was a rare disease patient. At twelve, I had only a small understanding of what that meant. At thirty-two, I know exactly what that means - and today I am sitting in front of you, telling my story, from within the depths of my heart because I owe life and all that life entails the chance to explain my past, my present, and my future - my future of which I am incredibly hopeful.

Hereditary Angioedema, HAE, is a genetic condition that affects one in 50,000 Americans. It is a debilitating, humiliating, painful, heartbreaking series of revolving swellings. It is unpredictable, it is unforgiving. Some days it attacks a hand, swelling it up within hours to the point the skin stretches and rips. The swelling lasts four to five days. Some days it attacks the intestines, swelling to the point where the only course of action is to lay in bed, writhing in pain, waiting for the swelling to go away. You cannot escape your body. You literally want to die, right there, because there is no escape from the pain. Other days, it attacks all four limbs, and once-active patients are bed-ridden until the swelling retreats. There is only a small temporary relief for patients with untreated HAE - and that is the down time in between swellings. Untreated, I suffer from roving swellings every seventy-two hours. I am essentially completely disabled, but because of the unpredictability of the condition, I never know which extremities I will be unable to use on any particular day. HAE doesn't stop at extremities or intestines. Facial swellings, throat swellings, lead to suffocation. Patients have died in their sleep, without warning, from throat swellings. This is truly a condition that knows no limits, and can strike at any time. This is a condition that requires life-long consistent treatment.

A diagnosis as heavy as Hereditary Angioedema is devastating, and patients live every day in fear. In 2007, I entered a clinical study for treatment of HAE, using IV infused human plasma. That treatment worked. It almost immediately began reversing the swelling. In fact, the treatment worked so well that within two years of the completion of the study, the medication was approved by the FDA. I am shipped medicine and from the comfort of my own home, I am able to give myself an IV every three days. My HAE attacks decreased from every seventy-two hours to twice a month. It has literally changed my life.

In present day, I sit before you, healthy, able, and only because of effective treatment am I able to do so. I am a wife, a mother, a runner, an employee, and I am able to live life at one hundred percent because of the medication I have had access to. I have worked for Ride Connection for twelve years, and have been fully insured as an employee every day of my employment. My insurance has covered my treatment, allowing me to continue to work as a healthy employee.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Priscilla Lightbourne [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy!

NO! This is an abomination! I support the bipartisan work of Murray and Alexander. NO Graham Cassidy.
Priscilla Lightbourne, Oregon

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Baltz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repealing the ACA

As a small business owner. I can not afford Health Insurance. In 2009 We had a policy for the prior decade for both myself and my wife, the cost had steadily increased 10% per year (Oregon limited increase) to \$610 per month with suitable coverage and a \$2500 deductible per person per year. When We were priced out of the Health Insurance market in 2013. The premium was over \$1400 and the deductible was \$6500 per person per year. Paying the fines has further reduced our access to health care. Pass this Bill. Too give relief to the Tax payer. Richard W Baltz Lapine Oregon.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SuBosAd [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: in opposition to the new Republican health care bill

Hello - This is outrageous that once again the truly evil and heartless Republicans (Graham / Cassidy) are trying to push through an even more horrific healthcare bill. Medical organizations, doctors, hospitals, insurance companies are all saying, "NO" . . .that it is worse than the last attempted bill.

I do believe that this is all about Trump trying to please his supporters and dark money donors to Graham and Cassidy forcing them to push this through so that they can reimburse their donors. This is the most disgusting attempt to destroy the ACA.

Please, please, please do the right thing and oppose this wretched bill. Thank you. Susan Adams / Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John F Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Legislation

Dear Mr Chairman and Honorable Members of the Committee

We are John and Jan Smith and we reside in the state of Oregon.

I think that Senators need to consider especially the following fact: If this legislation becomes law, thousands and thousands of people will not be able to afford insurance and care and many of them will die.

Some Senators may scoff at this and deny to themselves that it will actually happen, but it will.

We are all born with the the "...unalienable gifts of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness". That must be true because we formed this nation out of that idea.

Doesn't that mean that we all have the right to be treated if we are sick, and to be cared for if we are dying?

If not, then please explain to the American people what American Family Value is more important than their personal right to life.

Caring for the sick and needy is not only a Christian Family Value, it is a moral calling. Our children and grandchildren will judge us by how we respond.

Please vote against this legislation.

John and Jan Smith
Eugene, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roberta Hausman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Republican version of health care

REPUBLICAN SENATORS: Are you selling yourselves to big pharma? Are you so greedy you would take from sick children and elders to give tax breaks to corporations and the weakthy? Aren't you afraid of what history will have to say about your "Trump years? This is my preamble to get you to listen to reason. PLEASE DO NOT REPEAL THE OBAMA HEALTH CARE BILL. IT HAS SAVED MY LIFE AND I KNOW IT WILL SAVE THE LIVES OF MANY OTHER PEOPLE. I RECEIVE WEEKLY INFUSIONS OF GAMMA GLOBULIN AND I HAD A HEART VALVE REPLACED TWO YEARS AGO.

Do you want to go down in history as the cruelest Senate in history? Save the Obama health care bill because it has not failed. YOU All have failed to tell the truth.

Roberta Bernstein, Democrat-Independent, Brookings, Oregon.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Stahl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The greatest threat to the US in 2017

Republicans.

Sincerely,
Sandy Stahle
Portland, OR

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kmv1109 [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why the rush?

Why is it so important to push through this flawed piece of legislation, rather than work to improve what's already in place? For spite? For revenge? That's not the way this country is supposed to work. Shame on you for putting party before the good of the country. The damage that's anticipated is expected to be enormous. I hope your consciences and your constituents can handle it.

Karen Vorderstrasse
Lebanon, OR 97355

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lolly Trash [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear members of the Finance Committee,

I'm contacting you to ask you not to go forward with this Graham-Cassidy wealthcare bill. It's unpopular, even with Republicans. Americans now believe that healthcare is a right all of us should have. I believe that it's a right. We're a rich country, a country that just approved billions more dollars for our already incredibly well-funded military budget. Also, to do this without bipartisan agreement, and even without a CBO score, is madness, not the way our government is supposed to work.

This bill, if approved, will hurt people, especially disabled people and people with preexisting medical conditions. It will hit the older and poorer the hardest. People will die. As public servants, and as people who want to keep your jobs in the years to come, I ask you to have both common sense and compassion for your fellow Americans. Don't do this. Fix some flaws in the Affordable Care Act so that it can continue, at least until we manage to work out something that covers everyone for a reasonable cost.

Thanks for your consideration.

Diana Armstrong,
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Shimoda [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The horrific Graham-Cassidy Bill

I'm a 66-year-old female artist. I'm not the most articulate writer, but I need to express my concern about the Graham-Cassidy repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act.

How could you ("you" meaning anyone who supports this) propose this replacement, one that will make health care less affordable and even non-existent in some cases?

From what I've read, only 16% of the population supports your plan, and the medical profession - doctors and organizations across the board - reject it. Even many governors are turning against it. So tell me, who are you really working for? Are you working for all people of this country, no matter their economic or current health status, or are you working for your ultra-wealthy donors? If it's the latter group, you've made a devil's bargain.

I won't go into the litany of all that's wrong with your proposal, but if it passes, if states must then come up with their own plans, if people with pre-existing conditions are told no, if people can't afford insurance, then this country will be in a very sad state. Your careers will suffer worse than they would if you didn't listen to your big donors.

This is NOT a way to make America "great" again. We are already slipping away from any greatness we've had in the past. You can stop this downward trajectory.

You work for us. Every. One. Of. Us. And you need and should want us to be healthy!! Please tell your donors that you have a conscience. Please tell your supporters that it's a mistake to repeal the ACA, that you've made the mistake of saying that for seven years. A decent person admits mistakes. This person is ultimately trusted.

Admit the mistakes and work with the Democrats and the medical profession to fix the ACA, don't replace it with your current horrific proposal.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Shimoda
Portland, [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joel Knutson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy proposed bill.

My statement regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill:

I strongly oppose this proposed law. Responding to it, I vehemently oppose the status of pre-existing conditions - it's clear to me that if the states/insurers have the right to control the cost of a policy IN ORDER to obtain a policy, then a pre-existing clause is pointless. Insurers will simply price pre-existing conditions out of the range of the consumers. This point is so obvious to me it seems ridiculous to type it. But clearly the message is required given the proposed legislation.

On a broader scale, let's use the scale of our country and its wealth to insure that every citizen has a clear and unobstructed right to individual healthcare. Let's spread the cost and risk of such insurance among all of us. Of course it will cost us \$ and time to do so. I am 100% supportive of paying my share of that cost.

A new healthcare system will always need to have adjustments as the world changes - but it's time to take the ACA, or some ever more inclusive system, and start building with the goal of covering not just more citizens, but all citizens.

On a small scale, Graham-Cassidy's passage will make a number of politicians feels as though they've won their little battle - they've kept their promise to their constituents. Of course it's good to keep promises. But I disagree deeply that keeping this promise makes us a better nation.

Bigger scale? G-C's passage will make innocent citizens suffer as soon as implemented, and will continue to degrade citizen's lives throughout the bill's lifetime. Horrific stories will ensue due to lack of good healthcare.

Passing this bill for short-term political gain is not governance. This is an example of cruelty, greed, and shortsightedness.

Let's do the hard work now, and create healthcare that takes care of our health. OUR health. Every American from now forward.

Joel Knutson
Hood River, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally Nichols [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Any legislative change to Healthcare in America should be done with a significant investment of Time, should be bipartisan and involve consultation with experts. This bill has not moved thru Regular Order, does not have a full CBO score, has not had Hearings (this hearing is a Sham). The list of medical organization that oppose this legislation is enormous. None endorse it. Only the Koch brothers and a minority of GOP governors endorse it. Only a small minority of Americans approve. The process has been partisan, rushed and has only one objective - A "win" for legislators. It will be an overwhelming tragedy for real people.
This is how Democracy dies.

Sally Nichols
[REDACTED]
Portland, Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ron Nauman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not end the ACA aka Obama Care

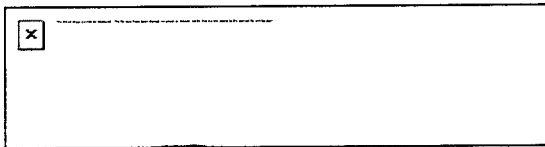
- 1 Without the Medicaid program my granddaughter born premature, while my son was going to school and working, would be either dead or disabled.
- 2 The ACA essential benefits has provided my clients and me, as an agent, with an insurance product that truly protects people. Before ACA I worried when people only wanted the cheapest product that they would then get sick, go bankrupt, and blame (sue) me.
- 3 before ACA I had clients cry in my office when they lost their work coverage and found they could not afford the the high risk plan and could not qualify for individual coverage.
- 4 destroying the ACA will damage the business I have grown over the last decade helping people find effective insurance solutions.

In conclusion your plan to end Obama care will hurt people and business. Please try to actually improve the ACA not destroy US health care.

Thank you

Sent from my iPad

RoN
Ronald Naumann, ChFC
Financial Planner & Benefits Advisor



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The writer of this e-mail is a Financial Planner with Oregon Pacific Financial Advisors, Inc. Ronald Naumann is a Registered Representative offering securities through United Planners Financial Services, member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory Services offered through Oregon Pacific Financial Advisors, Inc. a Registered Investment Advisor. Oregon Pacific Financial Advisors and United Planners are separate companies.

This message and any attachments contain information which may be confidential and/or privileged, and is intended for use only by the addressee(s) named on this transmission. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are notified that any review, copying, distribution or use of this transmission is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please (i) notify the sender immediately by e-mail or by telephone and (ii) destroy all copies of this message

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: QAF Mail [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is Horrible!

Dear Senators:

You can NOT let this travesty pass.

But don't take my word for it - listen to ***EVERY SINGLE*** doctor group, hospital group, patient group, the AARP, several insurance providers and even the Medicaid Directors of ALL 50 states. This bill/plan is completely unworkable and will bankrupt our healthcare system as well as the country.

I work in the healthcare industry. This bill would not only take away my insurance, and therefore my access to healthcare, it would likely RUIN my employer - a large part of who's business comes from Medicaid patients. It is not only a bad idea from a healthcare perspective, but also fiscally ***IRRESPONSIBLE***

Please do the right thing. Tell your rich donors - who are the **ONLY** ones supporting this bill - to go stuff it. You represent America. ALL of America, not just the richest 1% of us.

Do the right thing!

T. Ann Gregory
Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Cohen [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham Cassidy

My husband & I have owned a small business in Portland, OR since 2008, which means that we are self-insured. We would love to be able to provide insurance for our one employee, but we can't afford it.

In 2008, before we started our business, my husband was laid off from his previous job. His company provided insurance to our family, as I was self-employed at the time. Our first concern - among all the fears that come with being laid off - was health insurance. How would we afford to cover ourselves and our three kids? Would we be denied due to some obscure condition from our past? After a lot of sleepless nights, and with the help of a broker, we were thankfully able to find insurance. But it was expensive, with high deductibles, and never guaranteed year over year.

When the ACA passed, it allayed many of our fears of being dropped or denied. It allowed us to continue growing our business, rather than having to return to being an employee solely to receive employer-provided insurance benefits. It gave us peace of mind that our kids would be covered, including our soon-to-be college student. It guaranteed dental coverage to our kids. When our youngest daughter fell off of a see-saw and broke her arm, it meant that our first concern was for her health, not whether or not we could afford her medical bills.

But the truth is, coverage under the ACA is still very hard for us to afford. Up until now, we have been in that small percentage of people who buy private insurance and earn just a tiny bit too much to qualify for a subsidy. That has changed this year, as our premiums with Providence have gone up while our income has gone down. We are in the strange position of benefitting from the combination of higher insurance costs and a downturn in our business. Last year, our premiums were raised 40% (after increases of about 10-15% in each of the two previous years), while coverage has gone down. In 2016 alone, we spent almost \$20k on insurance and medical costs.

When our two older daughters turned 18, they each enrolled in Medicaid so that we could pay for their college tuition. Yes, even with the ACA, we were forced to choose between Medicaid and tuition. If Oregon had not taken the Medicaid expansion, we wouldn't have had that option, and our daughters might not have been able to go to college. We have one more daughter to put through college in a few years. If Graham Cassidy passes, will she have to forego college?

You might think that these facts might have us cheering for Graham Cassidy, but we're not. We don't want to return to the insecurity of the unregulated open market. We don't want to worry about whether our kids will be covered. We don't want to have to make employment choices or life choices based on health insurance availability.

While not perfect, our true hopes for the ACA were that it would lead to a single-payer/public option healthcare system. We realize that a lot of the ACA's problems were the result of poison pills inserted into the original bill by Republicans.

Graham Cassidy would devastate us. In 2020, I will be 50, and my husband will be 59. Medicare will be pulled out from under us just when we're poised to benefit from it - a system we've been paying into all of our working lives. According to the New York Times, Oregon stands to lose the most healthcare spending per capita of any state.

We believe that relieving business owners and private citizens from the burden of providing healthcare would make American businesses more competitive in the global economy. We believe that this country can well afford to provide quality, affordable healthcare for all citizens. We firmly believe that healthcare is a right, not a privilege.

Rebecca Cohen + Marc Cozza
Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeremy Milburn [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do what is best for America- reject GCH

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.

Jeremy Milburn, RN BSN
Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Meissinger <johmeissinger@...>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concerns over Cassidy Graham bill

Chairman Hatch, Ranking member Wyden and members of the senate finance committee, I'm writing you today to express my concerns over the latest Graham Cassidy bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act or ACA. I have a number of concerns with this bill that I find very alarming and could devastate my family and I. You can put me on the record as an ACA critic. The bill was passed when I was only 12, but I knew enough about it then to know I didn't like it and it could be bad for my family. Unfortunately I was right. Our premiums went up astronomically, co pays went up and our deductibles were super high as well. Things got so bad that my little sister and I ended up qualifying for the Oregon Health Plan, Oregon's Medicaid program. My sister and I are still on it to this day and we are thankful for the program and my parents are as well as they no longer have to worry about paying for my healthcare and my sisters healthcare. My main concern over the Graham Cassidy bill is how much money would Oregon lose under this bill. The graphics I've seen show Oregon losing a lot of money. If Oregon were to lose this money, could the Oregon Health Plan still cover all those enrolled and the people who may become eligible for it in the future? Let me be very clear. My sister and I can't afford to lose our Oregon Health Plan coverage. I'm a 20 year old college student going to school full time and work a full time Oregon Minimum wage job. My sister is only 11 and she's a sixth grader. I know many of you guys will say she could be on my parents plan. Yes she could, but money is tight for our family right now. My dad is the only one who makes an income. My mom is a stay at home mom, but is unable to work due to numerous health issues. She isn't on disability as she doesn't qualify for it. The state of Oregon needs their federal funds to operate the Oregon Healthcare plan. Many people in Oregon depend on it. Many people on it are: children, disabled children, disabled adults, low income individuals, and senior citizens. Cutting funding for this program could result in many Oregonians losing their healthcare. These people can't afford to lose their healthcare!

Please consider this as you discuss this bill.

John H. Meissinger IV
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

This entire repeal bill is a farce. It will kick tens of millions of people off their insurance. It DOES NOT protect people with pre-existing conditions like my wife, my brothers, my mom. It allows insurers to charge them extra. It punishes states that expanded Medicaid, when other states had that opportunity. It turns Medicaid into block grants and then cuts off all funding for Medicaid in 2027. That is UNACCEPTABLE. This bill does an immense amount of harm to our country and especially to the most vulnerable citizens: the poor, minorities, the elderly, and children.

And to top it all off McConnell, Graham, and Cassidy are trying to bribe senators from states like Alaska. They'll allow Alaska to keep the ACA! How is that fair at all? How is this even being considered? There have been NO HEARINGS. And NO CBO score! This is not how things are done. Ramming through legislation like this is wrong. Even Senator Grassley said he can easily find 10 reasons to not support this bill but he has to keep his "campaign promise." That is absolutely bonkers as a reason. And Senator Cassidy continues to LIE to the public about his bill.

This entire process makes me sick. It terrifies me that my family is going to lose their insurance and go bankrupt. The ACA made it so my wife could afford health insurance and get the mental health care she needs. It helps cover my brothers disabilities--disabilities he was born with. He's had 3 open heart surgeries in his life and due to his developmental disabilities he can't work a full-time job or live on his own. The ACA helps keep my parents from going bankrupt caring for him.

The true way forward is universal healthcare, which is why I support the ACA in the short-term, but definitely back Senator Sanders' Medicare for All bill.

Thank you,

Robert Hunter
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott and Theresa Valentin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill
Attachments: hospital_chan.jpg

I want to give testimony for the support of the affordable care act and against the graham cassidy bill.

My son has been enrolled in the ACA for over 3 years. He works for a small private company in Juneau, Alaska that did not provide him with health care. He did not make many claims during this time.

On May 27th, he was in a plane crash outside of Haines, Alaska. He was the only survivor.
<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/2017/05/29/survivor-of-fatal-plane-crash-rescued-by-local-residents-as-water-rose/>

He was medevac'd to Seattle, Washington for treatment, and spent over 3 weeks at Harborview Medical Center, and another week at a skilled nursing facility in Seattle. He moved to Corvallis, Oregon to stay with his parents (my husband and I) as he could not weight bare due to a hip fracture. During the scans on his face *he had multiple face fractures, including 3 breaks to his jaw, requiring his mouth to be wired shut for 8 weeks, they discovered a pre-existing brain tumor. He had the tumor removed on September 7th, and we just got the pathology report back that he has brain cancer. He is 31 years old, has not been able to work since the plane crash, will need to undergo 6 weeks of radiation and several months of chemo.

You can imagine what his bills are, let alone how this has devastated our family. He is a fighter, and is hopeful that he can beat this, but he will have to have MRI's several times a year for the rest of his life, and even with his insurance, he has over \$7,000 max out of pocket to pay, and will have that again next year. We also need to live in Seattle for 6 weeks, which is very expensive. Will any insurance company cover him if this bill passes? I don't think so. The company where he works was owned by the pilot who died in the crash. It is uncertain if it will survive and if he will continue to have a job when he returns to Juneau.

The point of my e-mail, is that my family and especially my son, should not have to worry about if he can purchase insurance next year or not while he is fighting for his life. As a parent, this whole experience is frightening enough. We have to help him with treatment decisions, all when we don't live in the Seattle area. It has taken a toll on us all. We were so thrilled when he could get insurance because of the ACA. We never dreamed he would need it for all of this. He was one of the young people who was in the "good" pool of people. It can happen to anyone, you never know when you are going to get blindsided.

Please do what you can to stop this horrible bill.

I've enclosed picture of my son after his brain surgery, so you can put a face on someone who this vote/bill will make life and death decisions.

Sincerely,

Theresa Valentine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: lisa perkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Cassidy-Graham bill

I was raised on an apple orchard in Oregon; no health insurance. I had ear infections throughout my childhood resulting in chronic problems since. Americans of all ages deserve health coverage. Affordable for ALL occupations.

Work to fix the ACA with bipartisan communication.
Stop being BOUGHT OFF by billionaire donors. Turn your back on the Koch Brothers.

Do the RIGHT and CARING thing. VOTE NO on this heartless bill that only seeks to enrich the wealthy and turn your backs on America's hardworking middle and working class.

Lisa Perkins
Elementary School Teacher in Oregon

[REDACTED]@e
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathryn Poff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal/Graham Cassidy bill vote

Hello - I'm an average American citizen, and I have written to my senators, and also to other key senators, about the upcoming, hastily-managed vote on the appeal of the ACA and its replacement with the Graham Cassidy bill.

I urge you to stand against this bill. It is, at its core, an attempt to free up federal money from ACA's premium subsidies in order to give tax cuts to the most wealthy Americans.

This is wrong on every level. Just two of them:

AMERICA'S SENIOR CITIZENS:

My friends with older parents who are in assisted living and memory care facilities are only able to get that care and monitoring that they need because Medicaid funds help defray the expense. Their parents would have to leave that care if the ACA is repealed and the Graham Cassidy bill becomes law. It is unclear how these seniors and millions like them would get even a fraction of the ongoing care they need. (My parents are deceased or I might be wrestling with this agonizing situation myself.)

AMERICANS WITH "PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS":

Under the ACA, I can procure health insurance, but under Cassidy Graham I would not be able to do so. I have one of the bill's pre-existing conditions - a VP shunt. It saved my life after surgery to remove a non-cancerous brain tumor that was threatening me with sudden death. The shunt is permanent and requires no ongoing care at all. So I would be severely penalized because modern medicine enabled me to survive an otherwise fatal condition.

If I can't get health insurance in America, I don't understand what I would be expected to do? If it was indeed available to me but with the sky-high premiums of a person with a pre-existing condition, I already know I wouldn't be able to afford it. I self-insured pre-ACA, with no pre-existing conditions or health issues as a 30-something, and the premiums were \$1,400 a month. Can you imagine what they'd be now, with a "pre-existing condition"? I would not have health insurance.

This would be an unsupportable position to put anyone in, and it applies to millions of other Americans.

Please don't let this rushed legislation come to pass and imperil the health of millions of Americans.

Thank you,
Cathryn Poff
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Sweney [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because the details of this bill have not shown it to benefit the American public. Period. Any senators voting for this are only doing so to appease political allies or because they have promised to undo the Affordable Care Act. If this proposal gets pushed through, people who rely on health insurance to stay alive could have their insurance severely cut back with dire consequences.

Keep the American public in mind. These are people with "preexisting conditions" that are outside of their control and make them more worthy of care, not less. These are people who live paycheck to paycheck and can't wait for a tax refund next year to pay for their medications tomorrow. These are people who, without proper insurance, use hospital ERs as their primary care and can't pay the bill.

This bill is unacceptable and the senators who vote for it will find that their constituents remember in 2018 and 2020.

Jill Sweney
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Losby [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am writing to voice my outrage regarding this piece of legislation. The fact that you are rushing to pass a law that affects 1/6 of the economy let alone millions of lives should give every senator nightmares. The nightmares that will be so many people's lives if this passes. The lies that are being told in the run up to this vote are unconscionable, shame on you Lindsey Graham but more shame on you Dr. Cassidy, you took an oath.

My Senators from Oregon are on the right side of this fight and I couldn't be more proud.

Sincerely,
Susan Barnes
Portland, OR 97215

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Forester <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I am writing to express my wholehearted opposition to this horrible bill and to encourage you to do the right and honorable thing: stop this bill. It will leave millions of people without health coverage and access to health care. It does not fix any problems with the ACA but is a publicity stunt. No one, not even the bill's proponents, believe this is a good health care bill. It is cruel and senseless. Please, please do the right thing and oppose this bill.

Sincerely,
Amy Forester
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Ross [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy bill - Vote NO

Dear Senators,

The GrahamCassidy bill is shameful. Are you so desperate to get re-elected you are willing to put many American's health in jeopardy? If you pass this bill then you should also have to use the same insurance as everyone else.

It's a horrific bill.

Diane Ross'
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Scott Everhart [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal ACA please.

Do not repeal ACA please. Repealing ACA will probably result in people dying. Repealing ACA is morally deficient. Please do not do it. Thank you. Scott Everhart, Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M. James Robertson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am M. James Robertson, living in the Portland, Oregon area. My zip code is 97086. I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. It is callous and will result in millions of Americans decent healthcare coverage.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It will undue protections for people with preexisting conditions. It will gut Medicaid. It will cost millions of Americans their health care. Finally, it has a 16 percent cut in federal spending with a 34 percent cut over the next 10 years. It is an immoral bill and our representative I plead with you not to support it.

Best,
Dr. Jay Odenbaugh

--
Jay Odenbaugh
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eric MacKnight [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator, noreply (Merkley)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy: No, no, no, no, no!!!

Healthcare is a right.

It is not a commodity to buy and sell in the marketplace, where the affluent get exactly what they need, the middle class are threatened with financial disaster by a health crisis, and the poor are just out of luck.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is a travesty. Republican Senators need to look at themselves in the mirror and do the right thing instead of pandering for votes and putting their own chances of re-election ahead of the well-being of millions of Americans.

Sincerely yours,

Eric T. MacKnight
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Banister [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill is Abysmal

I stand with nearly all Americans and demand that you do not pass such a cruel piece of legislation. It is BEYOND time to work together for a real solution for healthcare. Fix existing, don't destroy human lives and cause further suffering.

And get the money for healthcare from the incredibly overinflated military budget, that the entire world knows is benefiting crooked corporations invested in war mongering, such as Donald Trump's. We have become a third world regime.

Kelly Banister
Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew Lambert [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy.

To the committee,

My name is Matthew Lambert. I am a concerned citizen from Portland, Oregon, zip code 97206. I'm writing in because the proposed Graham-Cassidy legislation would be disastrous for Americans in need of health care solutions. It would devastate medicaid, destroy protections for pre-existing conditions, cost Americans millions of jobs, and devastate rural hospitals. I'm upset that senators are trying to rush this legislation in a reckless and partisan manner, ignoring procedure and deliberation in a way that undermines the foundations of our democracy. This issue is important to me for several reasons. First, I rely on the healthcare market place to get affordable health insurance. As a substitute teacher, even though I work full time for many school districts, non of them offer me any health benefits. Second, many of my friends and family members have preexisting conditions, including cancer, and they would not be able to afford health insurance if, as the Graham Cassidy bill proposes, insurers are allowed to deny coverage for preexisting conditions. I know people who will literally die as a direct result of this Bill's passage. I implore the committee, and the senate at large, to reject this wrongheaded legislation.

Sincerely,

Matthew Lambert

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alicia Bodenhamer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal of ObamaCare

To Whom it May Concern:

As a 39 year old mom of three (ages 21, 18 & 6), a wife, and newly diagnosed Non-Hodgkins lymphoma patient, I have a totally different view of Obama care than I once did. I believe yes we should work for our health care and yes we should be responsible for our own health costs. But, this diagnosis with GREAT worked for and paid for by my husband insurance has us in debt upwards of \$35,000.00 in less than a year.. We have no idea how we will repay this and the bills keep piling up. If something were to happen to my husband's ability to provide health insurance through his current job, or if I God forbid I lose him I would have no where to turn. My children would end up losing their mother sooner than the average 10 years (9 now, but whose counting) that I was given because I wouldn't have access to the health care that I need not only because of the cost but also because of the pre-existing condition issues.. So please consider everyone including the Republican wife and mother from Polk County Oregon when you are looking at how to revamp this measure.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

God Bless You,

Alicia Bodenhamer

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy health care bill

To whom it may concern:

I'd like to express my strong opposition to the Graham Cassidy health care legislation. This bill would be a disaster to our county for the following reasons:

1. This bill would cause many million Americans to lose their health care coverage.
2. It will decimate Medicaid, with devastating results for many people, especially the least fortunate among us.
3. It will allow the elimination of protections from pre-existing conditions.
4. It will cause premiums to increase, at a higher rate than the existing ACA.
5. It appears to be designed as an intentional partisan money-grab, shifting federal funds from blue states to red states.
6. This bill that effects 1/6 of our economy, will be voted on without a full CBO score!!
7. It is irresponsible for a bill of this importance to be considered outside of "Regular Order".
8. The American people deserve the right for this bill to receive sufficient public hearings, to understand the impact of this bill.
9. The Republican party is extremely hypocritical to allow a vote on this bill without: allowance for amendments, sufficient informed debate, expert witness testimony, subcommittee hearings, and bipartisan input.
10. Where is the study on the economic impact of this bill? With millions of Americans losing their health care, how will that affect our economy?
11. It is my belief that this bill violates the Byrd Rule.
12. This bill appears to have the support of less than 20% of the people in this country, based on polling of previous similar ACA-repeal bills.

For these reasons above, I am strongly opposed to the Graham Cassidy "health care" bill.

Sincerely,

Dan McKenzie
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Neva Moloney [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy/Graham health bill

We are firmly against this bill. Why?

No final CBO score.

Only one public hearing with 2 witnesses-for a bill that affected millions of people's ability to get health insurance.

Lifetime benefit limit cancelled=bankruptcies and premature death

Weakens pre-existing condition protections= millions unable to afford private health insurance. They need it the most.

Essential benefits weakened= early diagnosis of disease enables millions of people the ability to successfully fight an illness with a high percentage of success.

Block grants that give some states more money and many states less money. Funding is stuffiest for strapped states so those citizens will be left out in the cold with no insurance.

Ends Medicaid expansion= millions of low income people will lose health insurance. This safety net is vital for many less fortunate citizens.

In summary this bill is the worst yet. Insurance companies have come out against it. All medical groups are opposed to it. The majority of Americans are against it. Many millions will lose their health insurance which is like giving them a death sentence. Giving waivers or bribes to some states to get the votes is immoral. Should everyone move to these states so they can get health insurance? Impossible. The United States is a country of states that should be all treated equally. Every citizen is equal to one another and all should have health insurance. We are all one illness away from bankruptcy. The best thing to do is to follow regular order, get a CBO score and work in a bi-partisan effort to improve the health system we have. Otherwise there will be chaos and a sea of anxiety for our citizens. No on this bill.

Thank you,

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Marinac [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

Please do NOT repeal the ACA and replace with this ill conceived bill that does nothing to further the state of appropriate and affordable health care for ALL Americans. Eliminating coverage for pre-existing conditions is inhuman.

Simply supporting the rich and subsidizing a broken and corrupt health care BUSINESS, is not acceptable.

Thank you for considering a compassionate system.

VOTE NO!

Patricia Marinac
WI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Forrest Hanson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: NO on Graham-Cassidy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Forrest Hanson** [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 8:43 PM
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy
To: [REDACTED]

Haven't we been through this?

America spoke loudly and clearly earlier this year, time and time again rejecting the GOP's various attempts at sabotaging and dismantling the ACA. The BCRA was in the teens, only 36% favored straight repeal, and yet here we are, contemplating life after the passage of this Graham-Cassidy trash.

This is reprehensible legislation substantially (I've listed just a few examples below), and this process is also anti-democratic.

Senators Alexander and Murray were working towards a genuine, bipartisan compromise to stabilize the existing system. GOP leadership, including your boss, scuttled that in favor of a cynical, partisan, last-minute attempt guaranteed to harm millions. There will be no legitimate hearings (Senator Johnson's Monday sessions doesn't count -- the only two witnesses are Sens. Graham and Cassidy SMDH), and there will be no CBO score... so you won't now how many stand to lose coverage. Do you even care?

Please. Please stop. Please stop trying to hurt Americans.

Sincerely,
Forrest Hanson

- It would destroy Medicaid as we know it, costing CO \$700M more per year by 2023.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Smist, Margaret [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I am against the Graham Cassidy bill

Hello,

I am calling to tell you that I am against this bill. There is far too much expected of the states in this bill, and there is far too much ambiguity on pre-existing conditions.

I also notice that every major health care organization is against this bill. The senators should be asking themselves – WHY?? You have been elected to make the best decisions for the American people – may will suffer with this bill passed.

Thank you for listening.
Margaret Smist

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marjorie Bacon [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I am a physician vehemently opposed to Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I have taken some time this week to learn and understand more about this bill before sending my comments today.

I am a cardiologist with 28 years of work in medicine. I have seen first hand the devastation that happens to individuals and families when they lack adequate insurance coverage.

The loss of Medicaid coverage in the newly proposed legislation will have severe negative consequences for millions of vulnerable US citizens including many elderly and children who are supported by Medicaid because they have no other options.

I also know that many hospitals will face severe financial burdens and even failure without the reimbursement that Medicaid provides for the services they give to people in the communities they serve.

Sick people who come to the hospital deserve care no matter their insurance status and they receive it. However the hospitals must maintain financial solvency in order to be able to provide health care to those who need it.

Block grants which result in major cuts in funding will not solve this issue. That is a sleight of hand attempt to provide "choice" to states. Why is there a need to provide a choice to deny coverage?

Why are the needs of patients in one state different from those in another state? Why should geography determine whether a person can receive needed medical care?

It is no coincidence that every major medical organization in this country has come out in opposition to this legislation. There is no benefit to removing Medicaid support out from under people (even in a phase-out) or to removing existing condition protections. We are all just one stroke of bad luck away from having a pre-existing condition and from needing very serious medical care. I see it on a daily basis in my job.

We all deserve to have the care that we need. It should not be based on geography or financial situation. We must work together to ensure that all Americans have healthcare available to them. This is not a political matter, it is a matter of basic human decency.

I encourage all of you to really think about this in terms of your own family members and how you would wish them to be treated. Then do the right thing. Vote down this hastily prepared bill and work on real bipartisan health reform. The ACA has limitations which need to be addressed. It is not perfect. But working from the current framework to improve it will help to ensure that fewer people face bankruptcy or death due to an illness that could be treated if only they had coverage.

I hope you will take my comments under consideration, Marjorie Zyirek-Bacon MD, FACC

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Will [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

As an MD and cancer prevention and early detection specialist for breast & cervical cancer, I am writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Prior to the ACA, with limited access to screening, I had to inform many of my patients that their previously precancerous and easily treatable conditions had advanced to a more serious stage. In my practice in California, following implementation of the ACA and Medicaid expansion, many patients previously without care were able to have their diagnoses made at earlier and more easily treatable stages for less cost.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is predicted to take away preventive services and potentially make insurance prohibitively expensive for millions of people. One major problem is that without CBO scoring, we will not have a realistic estimate of how many will be affected.

A further unknown is how much more health care costs will be incurred as states attempt to hold down costs by limiting contraceptive and prenatal care. It is well known that prenatal care results in decreased maternal mortality and neonatal intensive care costs. Not covering these preventive services will drive up the cost of care for all.

Preventive care is always more cost effective than is treatment of advanced conditions. To the extent that Graham-Cassidy prevents people from obtaining screening and preventive services, it will increase costs, in many cases preventing life saving early detection.

I strongly oppose this form of "increased choice", which represents increased choice for state legislators, insurance companies, and some employers, it does not represent increased choice for patients. I stand firmly opposed to Graham-Cassidy for both economic and humanitarian reasons. Please consider at least postponing until a full CBO analysis and debate with potential for amendment is available.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Tia Will, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Chrisler [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

As members of the senate finance committee, I expect you to show good judgment. Voting to accept the Graham Cassidy repeal act before it is scored by the CBO is irresponsible and shows you are not acting in the best interests of your constituents. This proposed legislation will profoundly and negatively affect just about everyone in the United States. You actually know a lot of the effects this bill will have, since it closely mirrors recently failed attempts to overthrow the Affordable Care Act.

You should be ashamed to even consider passing this legislation. You will irreparably harm your most vulnerable constituents. Would you like such restrictions on your health and health insurance? Since you are 'covered' at great taxpayer expense, you are shielded from the consequences of your actions. We, the people, are not. Do not fail us.

Cindy Chrisler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah stuart [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care bill

Dear Friends

I am a mother, grandmother and great grandmother in a family of 18 children and adults. ALL of them are dependent on a health care system that is affordable and fair. ALL of them benefit from the current health care system - including 2 with pre-existing conditions and 2 children with special needs. It would be a disaster if this current bill were to go through. It's not perfect but the current ACA has benefited our family - fix it - but DO NOT I plead with you pass this bill . There is no way this family can get health care without the ACA.

You have no CBO score, ALL 50 Medicaid directors have come out against it as have practically all organizations which watchdog our healthcare system - including AARP - as have many insurance companies.

Please do the right thing - keep our health care system intact and don't put in peril the lives of millions of Americans.

I trust you to act wisely

Deborah Stuart
New Hampshire

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacey Yen [mailto:stacey.yen@nyu.edu]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

To our nation's Senators:

You must NOT pass the Graham/Cassidy Bill as it is cruel and unusual and would inflict harm on tens of millions of Americans. It would jeopardize Medicare and Medicaid. It would make maintenance prescriptions and routine care optional for insurance companies. It is discriminatory toward women and their health and it could mean life or death for millions of Americans and bankruptcy for the poor, working, and middle class Americans.

Moreover, it is a fraud. It is a lie. Senators are out stumping for a bill and lying about what's actually in the bill. It is a bill that would put more money in the pockets of the rich donors that run the Republican Party. The American people are not blind.

What's more, the overwhelming majority in this country does not want this asinine repeal and replace, we want you to build on what President Obama passed, not tear it down.

As Senators it is your job to create and protect, not destroy and harm.

Please end this cruel pursuit to dismantle the healthcare of millions and the juvenile attempts to make good on the perverse vow to undermine Obama's legacy.

History had its eyes on you.
The American people will not forgive and forget.

Sincerely,
Stacey Yen
New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Gareau [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Response to the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

My extended family made up of both Republicans and Democrats have all called asking congress to oppose now three proposed health care bills. They have done so because my husband (a cardiac patient starting at the age of 28) is able to work full-time and not claim disability through support from a special Medicaid waiver program. This waiver program helps him finance life-saving prescriptions that keep us from returning to the ED for preventable visits. Should this proposed bill go through, states will receive block grant funds based on their projected number of full benefit recipients. Individuals like my husband who receive limited benefits will not be included in the cap for funding. And proposed changes to insurance mandates mean he may reach a lifetime cap or be penalized for his pre-existing condition.

We have been told several times by the SSI office that my husband should just quit his job and claim disability. He would then qualify for Medicaid and Medicare, and our children would receive benefits. We choose not to do that, because my husband is able bodied and able to work, provide for our family, and contribute back to the great state of South Carolina because he has secondary Medicaid insurance coverage. I'm saddened that it is a senator from SC that co-introduced this bill, and I can assure Senator Graham that our upstate, Republican, conservative family will not vote for him next time if this goes through.

Everything we have read indicates that this bill is more punitive than the last two.

It seems that half of congress is more interested in pleasing a few extreme constituents and a lot of potential donors at the cost of the health of families, society, and our economy. The Koch brothers have been open about their support of politicians who repeal ACA.

It is your job to look past this rhetoric and make sound financial decisions for our country.

Please do not rush through bad legislation just to meet a federal fiscal year deadline.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gareau
Columbia, SC resident

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: joanne wrieden [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

This letter is to address my vote "NO" on Graham Cassidy healthcare bill. Rather than helping our fellow americans it is only a bill to dave face. From your constituent contacts it should be clear that what most americans want is bipartisan members working together to improve what already exists, ACA and to accomplish getting it done in the right legislative way. No final CBO score, language that allows states to loosen pre existing condition protections, and change in how medicaid funds are distributed are just a few of the unanswered questions that need to be addressed. My interest in government has been elevated after the last election but my new found knowledge has disheartened my confidence in our democratic society. It feels more like we have no say and the only way things get done is through big money sources. Change that and make me a believer in America again. Thank you for listening to one peon american. Joanne Wrieden.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: TJ Firp [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not take away our healthcare

We need the Medicaid expansion and other provisions of the ACA. People don't deserve to die if they can't afford insurance. Do not vote for GCH - we will remember this vote for the next six years!!!!!!!

- TJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: McCabe, Allyssa [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Do not vote for this bill that will harm many, many Americans.

Allyssa McCabe

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] gY
[REDACTED] et
[REDACTED] 008
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elaine Donoghue [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it is bad for our future as a country because children ARE our future and this bill is bad for children.

As a pediatrician working on the front line with our most vulnerable children and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania American Academy of Pediatrics, I plan to be vocal about those who support children and those who don't.

The past summer proved that the proposed health care reforms were damaging and short sighted.

Please heed the message that we have been stating all summer and leave the current health care delivery system intact. The American people are giving you the message to take care of our children, and we hope that you and your colleagues will listen.

Elaine Donoghue

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Madison Herman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Senate Finance Committee,

I am not in support of the Graham Cassidy bill. I am concerned about the welfare of this country's citizens if great time and care is not taken in constructing healthcare insurance for those who need it most. A healthcare bill should consult doctors and those who understand the needs for healthcare. Please, the Graham Cassidy bill would be devastating to the majority of citizens in the United States and would only create more problems.

Regards,
Madison Herman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kimberly Finkelman [redacted]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: "No" to Graham Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to express my deep concerns over the newly proposed "Graham Cassidy" healthcare bill. The bill lacks provisions that protect the poorest of our nation and their children. We need to help more people access reasonable healthcare, not fewer. The restrictive eligibility included in this bill will hurt our most vulnerable citizens.

Passing a bill simply to remove Obamacare in the war of Right vs. Left is a despicable and small-mind reason to jeopardize the lives of our citizens.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Finkelman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joy Staniforth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy

No; no; no. Please vote NO Graham-Cassidy. It is time for both parties to work together, Joy Staniforth.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Hill [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am a Philadelphia physician who is concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate. As you are aware, it is not in the best interests of patients, doctors, or hospitals and serves only special interests. The public is aware of the true nature of this bill - please don't assume that we are not. I encourage you to shut down this bill ASAP. If you do not, you will lose my support in the next election.

Thank you,
Dr. David Hill

David Hill

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Collins [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No

To whom it may concern

As a person who works in health care publishing, as a woman, as a mother, and as a human being, I think the Graham Cassidy bill is absolutely awful. I honestly do not understand why the Republicans continue to try to sabotage health care and bipartisan efforts at improving what we have, just so they can get a "win." This bill will not only NOT protect people adequately, it particularly punishes women, the elderly, those who may become sick or have pre-existing conditions, and the less fortunate. The American public **in majority** wants to see congress FIX the ACA, not repeal and replace with a poorly thought out bill that is being rushed through without proper debate, scores, and order. LISTEN to the people, not wealthy donors! In addition, I truly believe this bill will cause mass chaos in states and lead to a bureaucratic nightmare. It also rewards states who did not expand Medicaid and punishes states that did. Please VOTE NO on this atrocity.

Amy M. Collins
Somers, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bbmeunier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Act

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S® 5 ACTIVE™, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Good morning,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the Graham Cassidy Act. This act would leave millions of Americans either with no insurance or with insurance that they could not afford.

Pre-existing conditions need to be covered. Woman's health care must be included - family planning, pregnancy and childbirth services are so essential. Proper maternity care is important to ensure healthy babies.

Mental health and addiction services save so many lives. We can't ignore these issues.

A patchwork of different health care coverage spread out over the country will result in confusion and a lowering of the quality of care.

I implore the Senate and Congress to work together to craft a plan that will ensure good affordable health care for all Americans. The quality of the plan is what counts. Speed, campaign promises and artificial deadlines should not be driving factors.

Thank you for listening to me and to my fellow Americans. Please consider the needs of all of us when you cast your vote.

Sincerely,
Barbara Meunier
Springfield MA

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S® 5 ACTIVE™, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marta Pelusi [mailto:martapelusi@pahealthaccess.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Graham-Cassidy proposal comments

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate. The Republicans are trying to shove this bill through with 51 votes before September 30th, after which they would need 60 votes to pass it. That is the only conceivable reason to force a bill which has resolved none of the glaring problems of the prior versions of Obamacare repeal bills, and in fact makes the problems even worse. The majority of Americans now want to keep and reform Obamacare. A good faith bipartisan effort to improve Obamacare through the HELP committee led by Lamar Alexander, was killed in order to resurrect this version of a repeal bill. The HELP committee had already completed a series of transparent, constructive hearings. That is how Congress is supposed to do its job.

There will not even be time for a full CBO analysis of Graham-Cassidy prior to the vote. It would eliminate the individual mandate as the prior bills would have, but this bill offers no replacement. Most analysts agree that would inject chaos into the individual market. Even the insurance industry opposes this bill. Not one single major medical association in the U.S. approves of the bill.

The bill does not fix the pre-existing condition problem. Insurers in the private marketplace would be allowed to charge higher rates to people with preexisting conditions.

Under Graham-Cassidy, states would no longer have the option to continue the Medicaid expansion at a lower match rate. Further, middle-income Americans would no longer be guaranteed to receive financial help to purchase insurance coverage. These programs would end after 2020.

As if that was not enough, the bill has the new twist of taking money from states that did a good job getting residents covered under Obamacare, and giving it to states that did not. It eliminates an expansion of the Medicaid program that covers millions of Americans, and replaces it with block grants - substantially cutting Medicaid funding in the process. States would not be required to use the money to get people covered or to help subsidize low- and middle-income earners.

In conclusion, Congress should not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. It should drop all of these repeal shenanigans and get on with doing the job of fixing Obamacare. Republicans are playing with peoples' lives.

Marta Pelusi

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: michael lubbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Senators:

I know that you are going to vote soon on the continuation of the ACA, through the Graham-Cassidy bill. I wish to support the ACA in this contest. Even with the ACA intact my health insurance is not affordable. \$1400 tax credit subsidy, \$495 my payment per month and I am currently unemployed.

In addition to the insurance costs I have a deductible of \$3000 and co-payments and my portion of 6 prescriptions. I am not sure how long I will be able to afford all of this.

If the future holds that I am forced on to Medicaid, and the governmental support is decreased for this program, what am I to do? Obviously, I have a medical condition, an expensive one. If the ACA is discontinued and/or unfunded, I can not afford my care. If the insurance companies drop my coverage I will not even have the option to have insurance. To whom do I forward the bill. If I go to ERs, the local and state governments hold the bag if they pay the hospital timely or at all.

Hark back to one of the great Republicans, President Roosevelt. The private sector was not working for the American public. The Federal government was forced to pass laws to protect Americans. Breaking the Trusts and Food safety to mention two.

It looks that the majority of states under Graham-Cassidy will lose dollars and thus less coverage or lessor coverage. Also the ACA provides for fuller and more consistent coverage nation wide. As a country we need at least the coverage from the ACA. Yes it is not the perfect law, but it is your responsibility to improve or better it.

I thank you in advance for your consideration and hopefully your work to improve the healthcare for the American people.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Kinman [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Obama Care

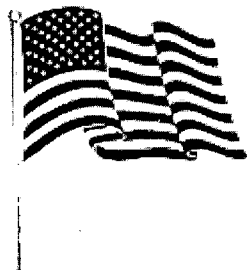
Please "DO NOT" appeal Obama Care.....

Please everyone work together to find a Bill for Insurance that benefits "ALL AMERICANS & THEIR FAMILY" much like the Insurance that all of you Senators and Representatives have at the present time.

Thanks,
Mark D. Kinman
Concerned Citizen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ben T. Lake [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE: CLTS WAIVER/CCOP programs

Finance Group,

Good Morning To You All,

My name is Ben Lake and I'm one of the workers that helps manage these programs in Kenosha, WI. These programs help fund services that are normally not covered under any other insurances and we help fill in the gaps to cover these services. (Respite, Childcare, Equipment supplies (not covered) are some of our top services that we help our families with).

As well we utilize our Loan Closet to help offset costs (Kelseys Loan Closet started in Oct 2001).

The service itself has tremendously helped our kids with disabilities stay within their home structure, get out into the community in inclusive like settings as well as transition into adult services and join the work force in some cases.

If these programs are cut back or eliminated I can project that we will have out of home placements go up, for sure.

I'm sure the out of home placements would be costing our counties hundreds of thousands of dollars per year- just for one case.

In the 17 years of working in my position I have only seen 4 cases usually in extreme circumstances (with our programs), where

all of our resources have been exhausted, where our kids needed to be placed out of home. The dynamics of our families have severely changed over the years. We are dealing with multiple issues with our families.

(Grandparents caring for disabled grandchildren, Disabled parents caring for disabled children, Domestic abuse within the family

Very involved needy kids (psych, medical, physical) that are disabled, multiple families that are lacking basic social skills that are needed

to advocate for their disabled child). These are kids that meet all the criteria for the programming that

we have put in place. If our programming is rearranged further or disconnected it would severely affect the outcomes, goals that they have for their disabled child and this would affect the transitioning into adult services as well, and financially

negatively affect our counties due to the rise of out of home placements. The cost if my figures are correct can be a 1/3 of what our Waivers

are on any out of home placement per year. One out of home placement for a year would be 3 times the

cost of our CCOP Waiver for our county. It is a no brainer.. It is more cost effective to have our kids with supports to be at home and our services helping

them keep them in place then it would be to place any of them out of home. Doing the math will help you make the correct

choice.

All the best with the rest of your day.

Yours In Life,

Ben Lake
Childrens Program Manager/CCOP

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Coral Bohne [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Act Reduces Employment

Please stop this bill. Besides the negative effects on healthcare, it will reduce national revenue from income and small business tax.

1. Less healthcare coverage means less people will be able to keep working, or keep their small businesses open.
2. Less healthcare coverage means less healthcare jobs.
3. Less jobs means less collected tax revenue to support our country.

Please stop this.

From a Grandma of a hardworking Christian family with the precondition inherited autoimmune disease. (Both my brothers-in-law are Evangelical pastors, my husband is a Boy Scout Leader and trainer and Business Owner)

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senator Wyden,

I am writing to register my strongest objection to this bill.

The Republicans tried to repeal ACA earlier this year and failed, mainly because it was a bad bill, which would have seriously reduced healthcare coverage for millions of average Americans.

So now they are pushing another version, which seems to be even worse than the one that failed. Seriously? I don't get it. What could be causing them to go down this path?

Sincerely
Vivek Jain

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Kelly [REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the Affordable Care Act

Hello,

My name is Jennifer Kelly, I live in San Francisco, Calif. I am extremely distressed that the GOP continues to play politics with people's lives like this. The Graham-Cassidy bill is a travesty that would ensure millions of Americans cannot afford health insurance.

This is deeply personal for so many people including my family. My father lives in Texas. He is bipolar, diabetic and (perhaps most importantly) self-employed. If this bill passes, his premiums would spike, his insurance could severely restrict their coverage of the mental health treatment he needs to not fall into mania or depression.

Two years ago, he experienced a mania so severe we had to hospitalize him in a psychiatric facility for almost a month. It was incredibly expensive even with insurance because he committed himself voluntarily. We need to treat mental health issues the same way we treat physical health in this country. We need to keep the ACA in place and improve it.

If we can afford costly military interventions and the Senate can agree on a \$700 billion military spending package, by comparison it is shameful that Republicans claim the US can't afford to take care of people when they are their most vulnerable and weak.

Vote down this bill or, better yet, don't even bring it to a vote. It's a terrible bill that is not following proper hearing or CBO procedures. All because the Republican Party spent 7 years promising to repeal the ACA but didn't think through a better plan. This is irresponsible and dangerous.

Stop it.

Thank you,
Jennifer Kelly

--
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allison Mastropieri [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Allison Mastropieri
Subject: New Graham-Cassidy Bill is an atrocity

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

This version of the very bad AHA is even worse than all the others, it has not been scored by the CBO and is being set forward not for the benefit of WE THE PEOPLE but for political reasons only. Please fight for the people to make our lives better, and not for donors to make themselves richer. We are counting on you.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kevin Meek [mailto:kevinmeek@nyair.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

The medical community and the majority of your voting public is strongly AGAINST the proposed Graham/Cassidy bill. Even the most casual analysis shows that millions of Americans would lose healthcare coverage. This bill is also astonishing in the convoluted disparity with which it addresses the needs of differing states. Please do not pass this bill, which does nothing to help the average American. Winning this solely political battle will surely cause you to lose the war when voters take you to task in the future!

Thank you,

-Kevin Meek

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen [REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reality

Dear Financial Committee,

My life in reality with the possible changes of Health Insurance:

I have 1 child in college and another to attend next year...how will I be able to pay for that if all my money is going to pay for health care insurance with
Outrageous deductibles and ungodly monthly premiums?

My husband has heart disease...are we to risk his health because we cannot afford to pay the \$14,000 deductible we have? Their children would lose their father
And I would lose my hardworking, loving husband...all because we cannot afford what claims to be affordable.

Our eldest child has medical issues, is she to live with these because again we cannot afford coverage and if the rates increase as they claim they will, there
Is NO way in this world we can afford to pay for the premiums.

Are we to go hungry, to lose our home, to live in sickness and poverty? We cannot afford to lose health care and we cannot afford the possible rate increase much less the deductible we have now. Who is looking out for us, middle class people who work and work hard for an income all just to be taken away by health insurance? The world has enough stressors in it for the best of us, why are we adding more? Simple solution....leave Obamacare alone, make the insurance companies bring back realistic premiums and deductibles and force them to cap it. If the insurance companies were forced to cap their premiums in the first place we wouldn't be in this nightmare. Blue Cross Blue Shield is gouging their clients and can because no one stops them, no one is looking out for us.

Who is to say what is affordable anyway? The people of this country are! The rich, the middle class and the poor simply cannot afford all the same things! Does this mean that the rich are the ones that should be treated better and the rest not worthy? The way that the insurance is handled, this country won't be bankrupt, only it's people! It will INCREASE the homeless, destroy the housing market, ruin the possible futures of our children and for what?

Please don't take away my health insurance, I want my children to have their father, I want to have my husband. I want my daughter to not live in discomfort due to her medical condition and I don't want to have a stroke or even die due to mine health condition and leave my children without their mother. In so many ways the possible change in the healthcare industry, that is not in the peoples favor, is simply torcher and murder...all things that are illegal.

I just don't understand the logical thinking behind the change. Obama had the right idea to make sure everyone had health insurance but he left out a big problem with his plan...stop the giant health insurance companies take advantage of it's clients just because it can. You want to change something, don't get rid of it, just fix it! Don't replace what can be repaired!

Listen to the people, that's all I ask.

Thank you for your time.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Yang Ding <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I am a pediatric cancer doctor and am concerned that my patients will not not be able to afford the life-saving cancer care that they need. Please do not let this bill pass.

Yang Ding

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Adrianna Collette [REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

I'm a nurse on the ACA Medicaid expansion and I need surgery. If this bill passes, I will not be able to have my much needed surgery and the sooner I have surgery, the sooner I can get back to work caring for others. My story is one of many. I can't imagine being the elderly person in a nursing home who handed over their assets to be kicked out and left to find a new place to get care. Where do they go? I can't imagine being the mom caring for their sick child facing losing coverage or the cancer patient going through chemo facing death if this bill passes.

Is taking healthcare from the sick and the poor to pass off to the wealthiest in the form of tax breaks and spending billions on our military now more important than saving lives? With this latest bill, I guess so.

We don't need a bigger military. We are not Russia and North Korea who invests more in their military than their own people. They starve their people and let them suffer. Is that the kind of country we've become? I guess so.

Shame on the billionaire Koch brothers for pushing this bill. Haven't they made enough money without needing more tax breaks? Paying taxes is not only your patriotic duty, it's an investment in the future of this country. If they really cared about the country that made them wealthy in the first place, they would use their billions they've made to reinvest in America instead of trying to destroy it.

A healthy country is a stronger country!

People who are sick and elderly shouldn't have to worry about whether or not they are going to lose their care. They should be focused on getting better.

You are scaring people!

This bill passing falls solely on you if you vote yes.

The choice is yours, hopefully it's for affordable healthcare for all without punishing the sick and the poor.

People will die and blood will be on your hands.

Please do the right thing and vote no. Fix it not GUT it!

America IS paying attention.

Thanks to Democrats for fighting for our healthcare and the health and well being of our great country.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shasmin Asbury <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid Removal

Hello. My name is Shasmin Asbury and I am here to tell you why the removal of Medicaid is a horrible idea. I receive Medicaid now because of a car accident that happened in 2006. I was sixteen at the time and because of that, I really hadn't started working. I have no way of paying for hospital bills for any kind of surgery. With me still receiving Medicaid, it is helping me get better so I can go out there and find a job and move on with my life.

Other people really need the assistance with paying for hospital visits and such because of how everything is going. The young and the elder need Medicaid to stay in the system and not to disappear.

Those of us with a brain injury really need the support and care of Medicaid to help us strive in the world. There really is no way that we can "get better" in the world without the assistance of this fabulous health program.

Thank you,
Shasmin Asbury

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Blake Hart [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Comment

To whom it may concern,

I am deeply troubled by the prospect of the Graham-Cassidy bill that has been introduced and is being considered. Block grants to states will represent deep cuts to medicaid and will leave millions without adequate insurance. We should not be putting caps on who can receive care; we should not be allowing states to exempt insurers from covering pre-existing conditions, we should not be putting caps on how much health-care someone can receive over the course of their life. Healthcare is a right, and by allowing individual states to manage the health care system we will have gross inequalities across the United States.

Thank you,

Blake Hart
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CBFSC Missions strives to cultivate beloved community, bear witness to Jesus Christ, and seek transformational development. Learn more at www.cbfsc.org/missions

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wyle E Coyote [redacted] m>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

I am writing this e-mail to express my outrage that once again rather than work on issues that actually help this country, the Senate has chosen instead to introduce another attempt to repeal the ACA. Why? That's what I want to know.

It seems fairly obvious that this bill is opposed by a large number of American citizens, health care organizations and health care advocates. Why is it so hard for you to listen to your constituents? It has been predicted that this bill will cause upwards of 30 million Americans to lose their existing coverage. Why would you want to do that? People will die because of this bill.

I am one of the Americans who have a pre-existing condition. I will not be able to afford the extra costs that are predicted for my care. It would probably bankrupt me. I'm also concerned about the fact that Medicaid will be reduced so drastically. This will significantly increase the cost for seniors and those with disabilities.

Please do not pass this bill. Please, instead, work on improving the ACA. Stop trying to ram things through and return to regular order. This is getting ridiculous!

Thank you,

Bridget Bohnet

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donald Marritz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it would be a setback for millions of people now covered for health insurance.

The government has a constitutional duty to "provide for the general welfare." This bill would go in the opposite direction. It is cruel and heartless.

Donald Marritz
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Madeline Simasek [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:42 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, not only will it affect children who are on Medicaid, but it will also affect adults who need Obamacare.

Thank you,

Madeline Simasek, MD (Pediatrician)

Madeline Simasek

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Mossburg [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I'm incredibly concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I fundamentally oppose any bill that strips 32 million of their healthcare.

Furthermore, it is discriminatory against both those with pre-existing conditions and women, in particular.

I personally beg you to heed my words:

No good will come of this bill - Only more pain and suffering for the taxpayers who can't afford private insurance.

Extremely concerned,
Kate Mossburg

Kate Mossburg

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Jeffers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy

When the whole of your attention is focused on whether or not you have enough money to have a medical procedure done, there's little time for else. Volunteering at the kitchen isn't feasible because you were born with a rare immune deficiency. Inventing something is out because your creativity got used up figuring out how to make your paycheck stretch far enough to keep your meds coming in for a disease you got due to a hospital error. Writing a book or a song seems frivolous when your teeth are in such bad shape due to your saliva's inability to cope with a certain bacteria. We live in such a prosperous country, and we spend so much money on increased military might, maybe we're focused on the wrong aims. Maybe we've missed the boat because, well, I'm in good health, obviously everyone else that suffers is by their own hand, or because they're not favored by God. But this is hardly the case. Even if we spent the money on taking care of our citizens, we'd make it back through the endeavors of those who do not claw and scrape anymore. If you don't believe that, then why are those wealthy enough to receive certain tax cuts any more likely to pour their resources back into the community? If one group would, why not the other? I say let's take a chance on the majority of our country and see what benefits we may reap from them who sleep untroubled at the thought and burden of tomorrow. At the least, for those of you who follow biblical precepts, is this not laying up rewards for yourselves in the life to come? Sell what you have and give to the poor, he said. If you favor the wealthy, but withhold your kindness to the lowly, how will you be received?

Please, open your hearts to the poor and destitute, and you will be lauded here, and if it's true, in the life to come.

Thank you,
Michael David Jeffers

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chad Maloney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy: please reconsider

Greetings! I am a citizen of the fine state of Illinois. Please do not send more power back to my state government. They cannot currently handle what you already have them do. They do not pay my public school properly. They do not pay their public aid bills in a timely manner right now. And they are raising my state taxes like crazy to help bail out the pension system that they have robbed from for the past 2 decades.

If you get rid of my medical protections from the patient protection act and instead say "the states know better than we do" AND you reduce my states medical allotments, I am going to be paying for it in state taxes and in worse medical care. How can you sleep at night knowing what you're doing?

- Chad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elaine Brannen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill comment

The Graham-Cassidy will harm millions of people, and it will not even have the benefit of a Congressional Budget Office analysis. Passing this bill would be cruel and irresponsible.

Elaine Brannen
New Mexico

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sherryamat [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy- REJECT!

I am Sherry Amatenstein, LCSW, a therapist and journalist who beseeches you not to take health care away from millions.

I am happy to take votes away from whichever politicians vote to put this ill-conceived, partisan measure through!

Sherry Amatenstein, LCSW

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carina Dillon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Without the ACA and its subsidies, I would not have access to health care. I have a number of pre-existing conditions which previously rendered me uninsurable on the open market. Graham-Cassidy puts my well-being at risk. There is a better way.

Carina Dillon
Tooele, UT

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Woldow [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
From: Pamela H. Woldow, Esq.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Americans, myself included, support the continuation of the coverages under the ACA by a margin of 60-40%. There's a reason for that. The ACA clearly prevents insurers from discriminating based on pre-existing conditions. It also allows children to remain covered until age 26. Pregnancy and birth are covered, which is most significant.

In my own household, my husband is diabetic and his life depends on access to certain medications and medical treatment. Under the Graham-Cassidy bill, a carrier could upcharge for his pre-existing condition or, in the alternative place him into risk pools, which are proven means for forcing greater expense or loss of coverage altogether.

In addition, as an older American, he will be hit with extraordinary rate increases. In Pennsylvania, those are estimated to be in excess of 20%. This would make insurance out of reach for him, and millions of other Americans.

As icing on the cake of this monstrosity, the bill permits insurance companies to raise rates when an insured gets sick. The Kaiser Family Foundation states: "premiums could be unlimited for people who get sick." Repeat: "UNLIMITED."

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 have health insurance coverage, no matter what pre-existing conditions they have and to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Woldow, Esq.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Colleen Moss [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham Cassidy Bill

Please vote No to the Graham Cassidy bill. It does too much to hurt those with disabilities who rely on supports to live independently, work and contribute.

There is not a real concern to make Healthcare work as there has been no examination of what works, especially for those with lifelong disabilities. I urge you to talk to Wisconsin about how they ended adult waiting lists, plan to eliminate child waiting lists and slated administrative costs.

Colleen K. Moss

[REDACTED] Ridge

[REDACTED] Wa

[REDACTED] ll.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Garcia <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't kill the ACA

I've been a type 1 diabetic for 32 years. Shortly after I was diagnosed in 1984, both of my parents were forced to declare bankruptcy and we lost everything because we did not have health insurance. My father and I used to routinely cut my manual blood testing strips into thirds to make them last longer. Sometimes I went without insulin shots to stretch my insulin. Between the age of 8 and 21, (the latter age when I landed a corporate job and health insurance benefits cirque 1998), I only visited a primary caregiver (maybe) 10 times. As an 18-year-old, my only access to healthcare was via an emergency room visit and subsequent 2-day hospital stay, which destroyed my credit when I was unable to pay a massive bill on time. I've now worked with a disability for over 20 years without even a single day interruption between jobs. I work at a job and in an industry that doesn't begin to speak to my vast talents, because I value healthcare for myself and my family over career satisfaction. Some days I go in to work feeling awful from various issues secondary to type 1 diabetes. I make no excuses. However, what will happen if I can no longer work? Without ACA, I will have to go without insurance like I did as a teenager and young adult. If you truly care about your constituents, you will NOT pass the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Jennifer Johnson-Garcia
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MANUEL SOLIS [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

As a public educator, many of the families in my school district rely on quality, affordable healthcare. My district includes many low income and disadvantaged families, as well as parents of children with special needs. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many students and their families receive Medi-Cal supported services and are in danger of losing these benefits. Under the Graham-Cassidy bill California would lose billions of dollars for Medi-Cal funding.

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

Sincerely,

Thora L. Cahill-Solis

San Mateo, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dianna Vigil <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing on Repeal of ACA

Dear Senators Graham, Cassidy:

You were elected senators, not God. What right do you have to condemn people to death because they have previous health issues, are poor or are just old?

My son, who is self-employed, and had previous health issues, went into heart failure at age 53, this April. His medical expenses have reached \$1,000,000 and he needs more care as his heart is damaged.

Under your plan, there will be a limit. What then, he gets to die as our government, you, decrees that he has spent his limit?

What is wrong with your moral compass? Is this how we save taxpayer money?
Shame on you.

Diana Vigil
[REDACTED]

Sent from Outlook

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Miguel Silveira <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Miguel Silveira: Comments on Graham-Cassidy

Dear committee,

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,

Miguel Silveira

Brooklyn, NY
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
[REDACTED]@m

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marian Thomas [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony

I am concerned that passage of the Graham-Cassidy legislation will very negatively affect me and my family. My husband is a polio survivor and his pre-existing condition must not exclude him from health benefits. We are residents of Leawood, Kansas, 66206, and this legislation would be a great tragedy for the state of Kansas. We have seen, because of the state's refusal to accept Medicaid expansion, how local control of resources for health care has taken care away from the elderly, the disabled and the poor. PLEASE do not turn over the disbursement of health-care resources to the state of Kansas, or any other state.

Sincerely yours,

Marian Thomas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marion Hulen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: johncornyn@senate.gov; tedcruz@senate.gov
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
September 25, 2017

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This bill will add more than 30 million Americans to the ranks of the uninsured. How can you be so heartless? If this bill is so good, then you need to require that congress receives their health care from it. You need to understand that health care should be required like driver's licenses are required. Everyone will need health care sooner or later so should be required to pay as they are required to pay into Social Security and Medicare.

Before you vote for this bill, you should know what the effects will be. The American Medical Association, the insurance industry and Blue Cross/Blue Shield have all warned that this bill will destabilize insurance markets and cause millions to lose coverage. This bill also effectively eliminates protection for Americans with pre-existing conditions by allowing insurance companies to charge a surcharge.

Americans deserve to have affordable health care. Why does every other developed country have affordable health care while the richest country in the world doesn't?

Respectfully,

Marion Hulen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: mb mbeckerco.com [mailto:mb@mbeckerco.com]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Sept.25. 2017

Sent by: Michelle Becker 39 Beckwith Rd, Killingworth, CT 06419

The above referenced bill is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote "Yes" are agreeing to remove healthcare and endanger the well being of many millions of Americans. Those who vote "Yes" do so in direct opposition to the constituents they are meant to represent, the Medical profession at large, and the majority of voting citizens.

Respectfully,

Michelle Becker

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Benton [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family counts on quality, affordable health coverage. I strongly appose the Graham-Cassidy bill, which will erode the coverage we have that already uses 25% of our annual income. If my husband and I had not married in 2010 after his job layoff, he would have been unable to get coverage at all, due to pre-existing conditions, even though he was an active 62-year-old who took great care to stay healthy. Fortunately, he could be covered under my plan at work.

I want to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it or make it less affordable or available for any American.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
Barbara Benton
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew DeCapua <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:38 AM
To: gchcomments

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

September 25, 2017

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

To whom it may concern:

Graham-Cassidy is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote "yes" on this atrocious piece of pending legislation will be remembered in the next election, and in the history books, as anti-American. The medical profession is totally united in its opposition to the bill, and only 25% of the general population support it according to the latest polls.

Health care in American can and should be improved, but Graham-Cassidy represents a gigantic leap in the absolutely wrong direction. Please work in a bipartisan way to draft health care legislation that will benefit all Americans.

Very sincerely and respectfully yours,
-Matthew DeCapua
Citizen
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Giscombe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: You must vote AGAINST Graham Cassidy health care bill

One more thing - think about Trump's motivation for "repeal and replace." He is intent on destroying Obama's legacy, in particular those accomplishments that have benefitted Americans.

This is a bleak time in American history, given our unprincipled, incompetent, con man of a president. It should be obvious that his motivation is gaining personal notoriety and pleasing his racist "base" (many of whom do not seem willing to acknowledge that his actions on health care will hurt them). Trump is an unprincipled liar and cheat who does not give a damn about the well being of US citizens.

Of course, many Republicans want the Koch brothers funds so that those Republicans up for re-election can more easily win. But please take the long view, and reflect on the fact that history will NOT be kind to those who enabled the inhumane, cruel, actions of this wildly incompetent president. For the Republicans among our elected representatives, please stop pretending that Trump is a leader you must follow.

Katherine Giscombe, Ph.D.

On Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 11:28 AM, Katherine Giscombe <kgiscombe@gmail.com> wrote:

The ACA provides protection for those with pre-existing conditions - the Graham Cassidy bill does not. The Republicans pushing this bill are lacking in ethics and decency, by pushing it through for a vote while they can win w/ a simple majority, rather than giving the Congressional Budget Office time to rate it. Yet, it's obvious to the entire health care industry - who have come out in force AGAINST this bill - that the bill will strip coverage from millions of Americans.

By voting for this bill, you are sentencing Americans to death.

What a shame that our elected representatives are so lacking in principle that they are willing to kill off US citizenry.

Do NOT vote for this bill.

Katherine Giscombe, Ph.D.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilee Adams <[REDACTED]@inquiryinstitute.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Importance: High

Hello: In the strongest and most moral terms, I urge you to cast a "No" vote opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill. If passed, it would undermine the health not only of individuals, families, and communities and our country as well.

Instead I want to see due process of procedure and a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Marilee Adams, Ph.D.
161 Rocktown-Lambertville Road
Lambertville, New Jersey 08530

Marilee Adams, Ph.D.
Founder and CEO, Inquiry Institute International LLC
Author: *Change Your Questions, Change Your Life*
#1 Amazon Bestseller Business - Organizational Learning
Author, *Teaching that Changes Lives*
Gold Medal IPPY Publishers Award
Tel: 609-397-9100 Fax: 609-397-2998
Email: Marilee@inquiryinstitute.com
www.InquiryInstitute.com
<http://www.linkedin.com/in/marileeadams>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kateri MD [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO! to Graham-Cassidy bill

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

While I agree that the ACA is not perfect, I genuinely believe that it is a step in the right direction. In the states that included a Medicaid expansion, there was a definite improvement in affordable care. As an emergency physician I have seen the impact first hand. Instead of having the ED's tied up with uncontrolled chronic conditions because people had no access to primary care for routine care, and having to start people on insulin and adjust blood pressure medications in the ED (not something I was trained to do), they have a primary provider to help with preventative care and control of chronic conditions. In the long run, routine preventative care decreases overall costs by cutting down hospital admissions for uncontrolled chronic conditions or complications from poorly controlled disease. With this new bill so many people will lose their insurance and with that, access to affordable care. We will then be back to emergency department visits and hospital admissions for avoidable conditions.

Personally, I am concerned about the potential to lose protection for pre-existing conditions due to some health problems within my family. It is inhumane to deny coverage to those who need it most. Allowing premiums to be raised to unaffordable rates for those same people is similarly inhumane.

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

Sincerely,

Kateri Roessler-Henderson, MD
Emergency Medicine Physician
Tacoma, WA

There will also be overall funding reductions as the result of Graham-Cassidy, with some states facing steep reductions in their funding and therefore facing an impossible task of ensuring assistance for those who need help affording their insurance.

Because many cancer patients – as many as one-third of children with cancer – rely on Medicaid for their care, significant changes in Medicaid pose a threat to those patients. We are particularly concerned about the ability of cancer patients to receive appropriate and adequate treatment, including life-saving new therapies, in the future.

From the time of the release of the Graham-Cassidy legislation, NCCS has offered strong cautions about its impact on cancer patients. We have urged that Congress undertake a thoughtful and deliberate process for consideration of health reform legislation, a bipartisan process that would provide ample opportunity for health care experts, patient advocates, other stakeholders, and the American public to participate in and observe the development of legislation. We have also recommended that no legislation move forward until a full Congressional Budget Office estimate is released and reviewed.

We offer the warnings about the lack of a transparent and open process again, with greater urgency. We understand that a significant revision of the Graham-Cassidy bill is soon to be released. One version of this revision – we understand there may be several iterations – would put cancer patients at even greater risk of being unable to purchase adequate health insurance. We would also point out that the Congressional Budget Office score that will be released will not be an analysis of the revised bill.

A bill – now revised – that puts so many Americans at risk should not be rushed through the legislative process.

The Committee on Finance should use the hearing on Monday, September 25, as a first step in a bipartisan effort at reform. The time of the committee should not be spent on consideration of a bill that may be released only minutes before the hearing.

We stand ready to participate in an open and deliberate process to improve Americans' access to affordable and adequate health insurance.

Sincerely,

Shelley Fuld Nasso, MPP
Chief Executive Office

Shelley Fuld Nasso, MPP

Chief Executive Office
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
NEW ADDRESS: [REDACTED] 930
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] direct
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].org



Follow our blog for updates on cancer policy news and analysis

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shelley Fuld Nasso [fuldshelley@nccs.org]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Lindsay Houff
Subject: Comments of National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship on Graham-Cassidy legislation
Attachments: NCCS to Senate Finance on Graham Cassidy September 25 2017.pdf

Importance: High

Attached and pasted below, please find comments from the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (NCCS) on the Graham-Cassidy legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and please do not hesitate to contact me or my colleague, Lindsay Houff (lhouff@canceradvocacy.org) if you have any questions.

Shelley Fuld Nasso, MPP

Chief Executive Officer

National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship

NEW ADDRESS: 2455

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000



Follow our blog for updates on cancer policy news and analysis

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

The National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship represents survivors of all forms of cancer. We are writing to voice our opposition to the Graham-Cassidy legislation. We believe that this legislation, in its original form or in the revised version scheduled for release on Monday, September 25, will put cancer patients and survivors at risk of losing access to cancer care.

Cancer patients consistently say that their diagnosis with cancer changes their lives forever. Many report great stress and fear about managing their initial cancer treatment and follow-up survivorship care. That stress relates to navigating the health care system, making decisions about care, and having the means to pay for their care. Of course, when a person receives a cancer diagnosis, that person forevermore has a pre-existing condition.

The Graham-Cassidy legislation will erode the protections against pre-existing condition limitations that Americans currently enjoy. Cancer patients will likely face higher premiums for coverage that does not cover all elements of their care. They will also face more significant financial burdens related to their care, meaning more of them will have to address financial toxicities associated with their care. A cancer diagnosis is tough news. Graham-Cassidy will make things even tougher for cancer patients.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nathan Gerdes (nathan.gerdes@ghm.com)
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My partner's family has a deep history of both physical and mental illness, and despite working full time, would be homeless without the coverage that the ACA affords. The Affordable Care Act allows them the medical procedures that would otherwise bankrupt them, as well as allows them the medication and mental health treatment that renders them capable of working and living their lives to the fullest. To repeal the ACA would be disastrous. Rather, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Nathan Gerdes

[Redacted]
[Redacted] 03

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ashlynn Billingsley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 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 have pre-existing conditions of Fibromyalgia and chronic depression which lead to a myriad of mental and physical pain. I work hard to live my life, but need the help of my daily medication and weekly physical therapy.

I am appalled that Republican Senators would rather service their donors over the living, breathing, everyday Americans who would suffer from this bill like myself.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. If this bill passes, it literally threatens my children who rely on me for their care.

Sincerely,
Ashlynn Wright

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from a non-knitted object

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Ryncavage <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I OPPOSE the Graham/ Cassidy Bill

I OPPOSE this bill. If this bill passes, I will probably die as I have a pre existing condition called CANCER. Please pass a bipartisan bill that will improve ACA and allow millions of Americans to keep their insurance regardless of pre existing conditions.

I want insurance that will give me peace of mind... I want the opportunity to have insurance like you in the Senate have access to.

Linda Ryncavage
US citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Larochelle <jess.larochelle@mass.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Danna Mauch; Genevieve Mulligan; Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal: Massachusetts Association for Mental Health

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

On behalf of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health (MAMH), we are writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. Since 1913, MAMH has been working to forge understanding of mental health conditions and combat disparities. The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal threatens the health and financial security of millions of Americans, including people with mental health and substance use conditions:

- **Eliminates critical consumer protections**

This proposal allows states to eliminate one of the most popular and important consumer protections under the ACA - the prohibition on charging higher premiums based on a person's health status or a preexisting condition. This means that in states that choose to eliminate this requirement, insurers could charge individuals with even relatively mild pre-existing conditions thousands of dollars above standard rates to obtain the same coverage as someone without a preexisting condition. Additionally, this proposal allows states to waive the requirement that insurers cover essential health benefits including mental health services and substance abuse treatments.

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

This proposal ends the ACA's successful Medicaid expansion, which has extended coverage to nearly 12 million newly eligible low-income adults. It also eliminates the ACA tax credits that 10 million low- and moderate-income people rely on to afford coverage in the individual market. Although it replaces this funding with a block grant to states, the proposal offers no guarantee that states will provide an alternative affordable coverage option to former enrollees - and indeed the block grant is inadequate to pay for comparable benefits. From 2020 through 2026, block grant funding would be at least 7% (\$95 billion) below projected spending under current law, including a \$5-\$8 billion loss in federal funding to Massachusetts. By 2017, it would result in approximately 665,000 Massachusetts residents losing coverage and would undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state.¹

- **Lacks transparency and opportunity for meaningful input**

Everyone should have a say in the decisions that affect their health. With only one hearing scheduled days before a possible vote, and without a full CBO score to properly evaluate the budgetary and coverage loss impacts, it is impossible to have an open and deliberative process that would allow for a true evaluation of and meaningful input on the policies in this proposal. We encourage a return to "regular order," as requested by many members of the Senate and supported by the American public.

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

Sincerely,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kate quale [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote NO Graham-Cassidy Bill

I plead with you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and any cuts to Medicaid.

Please stand up for what is right. We are a middle-upper class family that has always worked hard, saved up, & given back. No one chooses to have a pre-existing condition or for a child to be born disabled. Things happen to good people. As Americans we need to look out for each other. I would rather invest money & time into America's future, schools, small businesses, infrastructure than claim bankruptcy over a pre-existing condition & disability only to become a burden to our society. This seems like fairly clear rationale & a good investment, no?

Our story:

Our 3 year old daughter Belen was diagnosed Autistic at age 2.5. She also has Dyspraxia, Hypotonia, & Oral - Dysphagia which causes her to choke & aspirate food or liquids. Belen needs constant care. I am well educated with a Masters, but had to leave my career to provide her 24/7 in-home therapy & care. She attends Autism Day Treatment, Occupational, Speech, and Physical Therapies 18+hours a week. I am extremely grateful for Medicaid (in Minnesota also known as MA & TEFRA - where we pay a parental fee). Private insurance companies prior to Obamacare often denied services for Autistic children. Now our private insurance (\$12,000 deductible, 80/20, plus copays), cap therapy at 60 hours a year. But to put that in perspective our daughter requires a minimum of 18 hours of therapy per week. That's 929 hours of therapy per year!

For autism early intervention is key to even have a chance in life and to be fiscally responsible. Cutting off disability services for children only results in costing the family (& the government) more money, as these children don't grow up to be self sufficient - they grow up to require 24/7 personal care assistance.

Medicaid is the only reason our daughter is talking and interacting with the world today. From being non-verbal & constantly choking resulting in us having to perform the Heimlich maneuver at every meal, wondering if this will be the last time our daughter is alive. Now she can feed herself with a spoon and only has choking episodes once or twice a month. Belen can say "Mama", "Papa" & her name, and even runs up to other kids to greet them. She recites the alphabet, even sings.

She loves dress-up, stuffed animals, art and books. Her favorite animal is the Elephant because "it is large, gentle and has an excellent memory." Someday we hope she'll even say "I love you" to us.

I really appreciate you taking the time to hear our story. It is not something you prepare for as a parent, that your child will be/become disabled. You work hard, save up for emergencies, & never live beyond your means, give back to the community - you do everything "right".

Then find yourself wondering how you can afford to provide the critical services your child needs to be an active & contributing member of our society. I was misinformed on what Medicaid was and who it was for before. Please don't let others who are misinformed take Medicaid away.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Courtney Walsh <[REDACTED]@gchmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concerns about health bill

I am writing to state my unequivocal opposition to the Graham-Cassidy health care bill.

This bill has not been run through the regular order, has not been scored by the Congressional Budget Office, and threatens to decimate the coverage of millions of Americans.

Every day, I hear new stories of average (read--NOT WEALTHY) Americans who depend on Medicaid and/or the ACA for coverage for life-threatening illnesses.

This bill will directly affect these people and so many others.

Please continue to work to improve the ACA with bipartisan efforts as suggested by Senator John McCain:

“We seem convinced that majorities exist to impose their will with few concessions and that minorities exist to prevent the party in power from doing anything important. That’s not how we were meant to govern,” he wrote in a Washington Post op-ed in August, headlined “It’s time Congress returns to regular order.”

(https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2017/09/21/all-about-regular-order-and-why-it-could-make-or-break-republicans-obamacare-repeal/?utm_term=.3037f2e410a5)

Sincerely,

Courtney Walsh
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dave Kutz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Cassidy-Graham Plan for Senate Finance Committee

Hello,

I am writing as a Dover, NH resident to express my disapproval of the Cassidy-Graham Plan. I am not in favor of this plan, and feel that it would negatively impact those with a low-income, people with disabilities, and the elderly. I am a Case Manager for adults with disabilities / low income seniors, and know how much my clients rely on their Medicaid benefits. For all of my clients, Medicaid-covered services are making it possible for them to remain healthy and safe in their homes / communities as opposed to an institution or nursing home. This plan makes negative changes to Medicaid and I do not feel moves us any closer as a country toward stronger health insurance for all, regardless of income, pre-existing conditions or need.

Thank you,
Dave Kutz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jean Wylie [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy punishes Americans

NO! Stop this madness! You cannot pretend this makes anything better. You punish Arizona for accepting Medicaid to help our citizens. You destroy Medicaid and send us Block Grants!

#1. Block grants are hand grenades designed to destroy State budgets! I am 70 years old and I remember what happens to block grants. Block grants are a convenient way to cut future payments in the name of austerity!. Every time you need money to spend on the Pentagon you cut block grants so don't lie to us about giving us money called block grants!

#2. When Arizona lost funding in the last Great Depression it used it as an excuse to destroy education!!! So Arizona citizens have no hope of getting any kind of healthcare out of this citizen-punishing state government. Governor Ducey approved Graham Cassidy because he plans on running for Senator and he doesn't have to be the governor that makes Graham Cassidy work!

#3 there are not enough exclamation points to get across to you how mean-spirited you Republicans are being. You are determined to destroy Healthcare because the Koch brothers told you to because they want a Big Tax cut. You think that somehow you can lie to us and we won't figure it out?

Republicans lies are now bold and bright and upfront and nobody can hide you anymore. 2018 is coming. The only way you can stay in office is if you don't allow people to vote at all ever again. Take that to the bank and sit on it!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hannah Stuart [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE: Graham-Cassidy

Good morning,

I'm writing to register my opposition to not only the contents of this bill, but of the way it's being rammed through without regular order. To push through a bill very few people with the power to vote on it have actually read—a bill that affects an industry that is 1/6th of our economy—is grossly irresponsible, and is playing with people's very lives.

Every major medical organization in this country stands in opposition to this bill, including the American Medical Association, who stated it violates their precept "first do no harm". Please take some time to consider why they, an organization representing our medical providers, feel that way.

As a woman, this bill would allow my employer to control whether I have access to birth control or a safe and legal abortion, would allow insurance companies to charge me up to \$17,000 more for a healthy pregnancy (never mind if I had complications) and would allow insurance companies to refuse to provide me coverage for things like having heavy periods or having had conditions like ovarian or breast cancer. As the latter runs in my family, I am understandably very concerned.

Someone with metastatic cancer, under this bill, will likely pay \$142,000 more in premiums per year—if they're not thrown off of insurance altogether. This means many people will have to choose between having potentially live-saving treatment and leaving their families in debt. My best friend's mother is currently dying from cancer. If this bill passed, she wouldn't be able to access the care that has prolonged her life and kept her around longer so that my friend has her mother.

Passing this bill would be cruel and irresponsible in innumerable ways. Be better stewards of the position you were elected to.

Sincerely,

Hannah Stuart
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fahs, Deborah [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care Bill

Let me preface my below comments by stating that I am unaffiliated voter so write from neither a democratic nor republican perspective..

The Graham/Cassidy bill is simply WRONG and defies everything we as Americans stand for. Being an advanced practice nurse and a college professor, I am very concerned for the future of health care. Rushing through to pass a defective and as President Trump has stated in the past, regarding a similar bill as “mean,” shows a lack of integrity on the part of many republicans in providing adequate health coverage to all people and not just those like me who can easily afford good health coverage.

I believe Sen. Chuck Grassley described this bill clearly and succinctly in his recent comments which to me, demonstrates a total lack civility and sheer decency toward our fellow citizens. Why is Congress not doing what is right for our citizens but what they believe is right to the survival of their party?

While I have respected many of Lindsey Graham’s views and ideals in the past, on this one—he has it wrong. Bravo for Sen. John McCain, a maverick who votes not only with his intellect and integrity but also with his heart and soul in what is right for others less financially fortunate than himself. Bravo for Sen. Susan Collins of Maine and hopefully Sen. Lisa Murkowski will also understand the many flaws of the Graham/Cassidy bill.

Yes, fix Obamacare—but do so thoughtfully, logically and humanely.

Deborah Fahs, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily McKee <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing
Attachments: !Hearing to Consider the Graham.docx; ATT00001.htm

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

Submitted by: Emily McKee, 518 Park Avenue, DeKalb, IL 60115

As a concerned citizen, with compassion for my fellow humans regardless of their income, and as a mother, with particular concern for the country my daughter and her generation will inherit, I urge you to reject the Graham Cassidy health care bill.

This bill jeopardizes the health care coverage of people with pre-existing conditions. It allows states to waive the current federal requirements that protect such individuals, which would create a piecemeal landscape of discrimination across the U.S. I believe that a country is judged by its care for the most vulnerable among us. Individuals born with congenital defects or who are already suffering from serious medical problems should be our first priority for health care coverage, not the last.

This bill would destroy Medicaid as we know it. Creating a capped system of funding pretends to give states more freedom in administering the program, but fails to provide the financial means necessary to do so as populations and health needs change in the future. The changes caused by Graham-Cassidy could easily lead to the elderly being removed from nursing homes once as caps are reached and many individuals being dropped from Medicaid rolls.

The bill contains prohibitions on any covered insurance plans from offering abortion coverage. Not only does this fly in the face of purported Republican concerns to devolve decision-making to states, but more importantly, it could be life-threatening for many women.

If a genuine effort were to be made to improve the Affordable Care Act, improvements that worked to control sky-rocketing health care costs while also ensuring and extending quality health care coverage for all in the U.S., I would wholeheartedly support that. The Graham-Cassidy bill is not such an effort. It is a heartless attack on the most vulnerable in an effort to score political points by repealing "the other party's" bill. It is pure partisanship.

Please cut out the partisanship and instead act to improve the lives of all your constituents.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: hilary uhlig [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: stop Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

As a mother of two children with health issues, I implore you to stop the Graham-Cassidy bill. My 16 year old has a neurological condition that requires her to take two medications, one of which is very expensive without insurance. She is very concerned that as she grows up and becomes financially independent from us that she will not be able to afford her own medication and that she will be denied health insurance because of her pre-existing condition. How many of you were concerned with health care when you were 16? This is an unnecessary and cruel burden to place on our youth. As she plans her college choices and future career, a big factor will be what career will pay enough to cover her own health needs. Which state should she go to college in if they don't support women's health care? If Graham-Cassidy passes, she will have to pick her job based on which state has the best health care. The long-term ramifications of Graham-Cassidy are far-reaching and cruel. Don't let the desire to "get a win" or "erase Obama's legacy" be the deciding factor in our nation's future.

A concerned mother,
Hilary Uhlig
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Missy Corley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham/Cassidy bill feedback

- * It brings back pre-existing conditions clauses.
- * It allows insurers to raise rates when a patient receives a new diagnosis.
- * It allows states to cut funding for, or let insurers exclude:
 - * maternity services
 - * hospitalizations
 - * laboratory tests
 - * dental benefits for children
 - * mental health
 - * substance abuse programs
- * Individual states will be allowed to prevent women's clinics from charging Medicaid for services like cancer screenings and birth control.
- * It shifts billions of dollars of costs onto states, giving them incentive to cut the above items.
- * It lets states spend block grants on non-healthcare spending.
- * Federal aid for Medicaid would plummet.
- * Insurers would be able to double their surcharge on elderly customers.
- * It kills the ACA's insurance subsidies.

Please consider these comments as part of the deliberations.

Sincerely,

Melissa Corley
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 12:15 PM, Missy Corley <[REDACTED]> wrote:
This bill needs to be removed from consideration for the following reasons:

- * It brings back pre-existing conditions clauses.
- * It allows insurers to raise rates when a patient receives a new diagnosis.
- * It allows states to cut funding for, or let insurers exclude:
 - * maternity services
 - * hospitalizations
 - * laboratory tests
 - * dental benefits for children
 - * mental health
 - * substance abuse programs
- * Individual states will be allowed to prevent women's clinics from charging Medicaid for services like cancer screenings and birth control.
- * It shifts billions of dollars of costs onto states, giving them incentive to cut the above items.
- * It lets states spend block grants on non-healthcare spending.

- * Federal aid for Medicaid would plummet.
- * Insurers would be able to double their surcharge on elderly customers.
- * It kills the ACA's insurance subsidies.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frederica Claiborne <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Craham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern-

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a breast cancer survivor for only 1.5 years. This pre-existing condition will make it very difficult for me to get affordable coverage and care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. And I expect to see open discussions on the matter. Please don't ram this thrown together bill down our throats.

Sincerely,

Frederica Claiborne
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Lincoln [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health bill

I am a voter from Chicago, Illinois, and I am writing in strong protest to the current GC health bill under consideration.

This appears to be the worst Repeal-and-Replace bill so far---and that's saying a lot. Of course, without the CBO review, we can't be sure. But it would appear that over 30 million people will lose health care coverage with this bill. There are numerous points on which this bill will fail to provide decent health care coverage at a manageable price for millions of Americans, but the Committee is well aware of what those points are.

Enough of this ideological foolishness.

Please do NOT allow this truly terrible piece of legislation to go forward, and please support Senators Alexander and Murray in the good work they are doing to improve and stabilize the ACA for the millions upon millions of people who depend upon it.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah Lincoln

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Dimond [mailto:jdimond@graham-cassidy.com]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 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,

James Dimond

Anacortes, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Julian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Everyone in this country relies on quality healthcare that is affordable within their means. I am a pediatric cardiology social worker and spend every day with families of patients with congenital heart disease. These children who are often diagnosed prenatally will undergo anywhere from multiple invasive procedures to multiple open heart surgeries in their-often too short-lifetimes for their pre-existing conditions. They will also be creative, loving, inspired, collaborative and awesome humans, but if we don't give them a fighting and affordable chance, we will never know.

Because of this, because when discussing healthcare policy we are quite literally discussing people, individual people and their lives and quality of life, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Julian, MSW, LSWAIC
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Conroy [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee:

Correction: only 20% of Americans and less than half of all Republicans, support Graham-Cassidy-Heller. Please return to regular order and pass a bipartisan bill.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/amp/news/poll-graham-cassidy-republican-health-care-bill-repeal-replace-obamacare-aca/>

Sincerely,
Erin Conroy
[REDACTED]

On Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 3:31 AM, Erin Conroy <[REDACTED]@gmail.com> wrote:
To the Senate Finance Committee,

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

The Senate should not be engaging in last-minute legislation as if it is a college student caught flat footed before a mid-term exam. The health care industry represents a massive *one-sixth* of the American economy. It is a radical enterprise to massively restructure the American economy on the basis of a bill that was resubmitted with major changes only yesterday, a Sunday. This is *not* conservative lawmaking. It is irresponsible and insulting to the American people, who have not been given sufficient time to review the Amendment or to analyze it with the benefit of scoring by the Congressional Budget Office. We have been deprived of the opportunity to meaningfully discuss this proposed legislation restructuring 1/6 of our economy with our Senators. For that matter, all 100 Senators from all 50 states are unable to participate in an intelligent and informed debate, or make a responsible vote, without the benefit of such time and information.

Furthermore, American voters oppose this amendment. Only 23% support it, and fully half of those voters do so under the false understanding that it keeps the ACA's federal protections for people with pre-existing conditions. (The amendment's proponents have repeatedly lied to the public and claimed that it retains those federal guarantees.) The GOP demands to pass some kind of "repeal and replace" of the ACA are coming directly from Republican mega donors such as the Koch brothers, who have threatened Republican lawmakers that they will withhold payments to Republican congressmen for 2018 midterm election campaigns, unless repeal is rammed through of the ACA (styled "Obamacare" by GOP opponents). The vast majority of American citizens oppose this amendment.

Finally, the lack of regular order in this slapdash legislation is shockingly irresponsible and a departure from Senate business. It is not befitting the greatest deliberative body in the history of the world, but a banana republic led by a strongman who demands his will regardless of the good of the whole people.

I ask you to reject this bill, return to regular order, and engage in responsible and sober assessment of the needs of the American people, and a bipartisan process at least as robust, long-lasting and serious as that which produced the ACA, which contains dozens of Republican amendments and concessions by the sponsoring parties.

Please disregard my previous email, as it had formatting error and neglected to mention one of the most severe impacts of the Graham Cassidy-Heller amendment on our family. I and my husband both have pre existing conditions. We are presently insured through his job. If, God forbid, he were to lose that job, without the federal protections offered to people with pre-existing conditions, we would be unable to afford health insurance or health care. That would endanger our four year old son, who depends on us for his own care. And we are some of the luckiest people in America. This amendment is crueler to others with greater health problems. Throwing our sickest to the wolves in order to make health insurance cheaper for those with fewer problems really doesn't make any sense, economically, socially, or morally. It will only weaken us as a country and make us more vulnerable geopolitically. As a Christian, I also believe it is contrary to Jesus' teachings to care for the least among us as if they were Jesus himself reborn, a Child of God.

Sincerely,
Erin Conroy
Portland, Oregon

On Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 3:00 AM, Erin Conroy <[REDACTED]@gmail.com> wrote:
To the Senate Finance Committee,

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

The Senate should not be engaging in last-minute legislation as if it is a college student caught flat-footed before a mid-term exam. The health care industry represents a massive *one-sixth* of the American economy. It is a radical enterprise to massively restructure the American economy on the basis of a bill that was resubmitted with major changes only yesterday, a Sunday. This is *not* conservative lawmaking. It is irresponsible and insulting to the American people, who have not been given sufficient time to review the Amendment or to analyze it with the benefit of scoring by the Congressional Budget Office. We have been deprived of the opportunity to meaningfully discuss this proposed legislation restructuring 1/6 of our economy with our Senators. For that matter, all 100 Senators from all 50 states are unable to participate in an intelligent and informed debate, or make a responsible vote, without the benefit of such time and information.

Furthermore, American voters oppose this amendment. Only 23% support it, and fully half of those voters do so under the false understanding that it keeps the ACA's federal protections for people with pre-existing conditions. (The amendment's proponents have repeatedly lied to the public and claimed that it retains those federal guarantees.) The GOP demands to pass some kind of "repeal and replace" of the ACA are coming directly from Republican mega-donors such as the Koch brothers, who have threatened Republican lawmakers that they will withhold payments to Republican congressmen for 2018 midterm election campaigns, unless repeal is rammed through of the ACA (styled "Obamacare" by GOP opponents). The vast majority of American citizens oppose this amendment.

Finally, the lack of regular order in this slapdash legislation is shockingly irresponsible and a departure from Senate business. It is not befitting the greatest deliberative body in the history of the world, but a banana republic led by a strongman who demands his will regardless of the good of the whole people.

I ask you to reject this bill, return to regular order, and engage in responsible and sober assessment of the needs of the American people, and a bipartisan process at least as robust, long-lasting and serious as that which produced the ACA, which contains dozens of Republican amendments and concessions by the sponsoring parties.

Sincerely,
Erin Conroy

P [REDACTED]

--
Erin Conroy

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Think you're an ORGAN DONOR? Click here to find out:
<http://www.shareyourlife.org/become.asp>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: dylan champagne <dylanchampagne@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I am writing to strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Affordable public healthcare is a foundation of any civil society--and should be a basic right of all Americans. In 2008, my father died at age 63 alone in his apartment because he didn't have access to affordable healthcare. His pneumonia would have been easily treatable and his death avoidable, had the structural priorities in our country been different, and he could have gotten the care he needed. I strongly urge Congress to find a bipartisan solution to improve ACA, not repeal it. The alternative is inhumane, unethical and cruel.

Thank you,
Dylan Champagne
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrew Wolfe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: FIX ACA - not repeal

Good Morning,
Asking congress to please work in a bipartisan way to fix the ACA a few steps at a time.

It only took effect 3 years & 9 months ago. January 2014.

I am a white, working, college educated, middle class, 55-year old Cancer Survivor. I get Zero subsidies.

Being a cancer survivor was something to be proud of. Now it's a preexisting condition. I cannot afford \$2,500/month or \$3,500/month.

I will be forced to drop medical altogether and take my chances until I'm 65. Is that making America great?

Respectfully,

Andrew Wolfe

[REDACTED]
S [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (c)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Boxer <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Strong opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Many in family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this and because I believe ALL Americans should have healthcare, I STRONGLY oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My parents rely on Medicaid, my spouse on Medicare and my older brother relies on the ACA for his health insurance. In addition, everyone in my family (as I believe is true for the majority of Americans) have pre-existing conditions. While the ACA is not perfect (no one ever said it was) I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, NOT REPEAL IT. Equally heinous are what amounts to bribes to the states who previously voted against the last attempt to repeal in an effort to earn their "yes" vote and the way – again – in which the attempts to get this monstrosity of a bill passed (secrecy, lies, etc). If you have to lie and cheat to get your bill passed, the bill should not exist to begin with and this is no exception, especially not when what should be a fundamental right for all Americans and the basic health and well-being of those Americans is at stake. Unlike this bill, I do not distinguish between those who have "led a good life," religious or non-religious, red state/blue state, Republican/Democrat/Otherwise. ALL Americans should have access to affordable health insurance.

Thank you,
Susan Boxer
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alan Nissenbaum <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please say NO

Without the proper opportunity for a CBO score, this action that may adversely effect millions of people, would be a serious dereliction of public service!

Please do the right thing. REJECT THIS and insist on a better alternative!

Alan Nissenbaum
Ballwin, Missouri

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda D'Urbano <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improving our healthcare, not Graham-Cassidy bill

My family and I count on quality affordable healthcare. Because of this I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill. Every member of my family has a pre-existing condition, from my husband's rare genetic eye problems, to my thyroid disfunction to my daughter's pituitary adenoma and my son's allergies and asthma. I support working in a bipartisan way to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Linda D'Urbano
Mullica Hill, NJ

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear United States Senators,

I am asking you to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill because I don't not believe it protects American citizens. Is that not for what the Constitution and Bill of Rights are intended? This bill only protects insurance companies, an industry that's annual profits are in the billions. Access to affordable and consistent healthcare should be a right, not a privilege, of any country in the world and especially the United States. We enter into combat with other nations for human rights violations, but we let our own citizens live on the streets, go bankrupt to pay medical bills (millions annually), have sub par public schools, and have children go hungry every day. My family is privileged enough to have good health insurance through our employers. We have had some high medical costs, that fortunately our insurance copays have been manageable. If we did not have insurance, or going forward if covering pre-existing conditions is optional, we would be in the position of losing our home. The cost of a recent MRI was \$4800. That's more than twice our monthly mortgage. The hospital where the MRI was done, has a round the clock schedule. If you assume that they do 12 per day, that's \$21,024,000 annually for 1 MRI machine. This is just one medical device. Medical providers, Phama, and Insurance companies are excessively profiting off of American citizens. This is the root of the healthcare issue. Please put forth a bill instead that protects citizens instead of big business.

Thanks in advance for your time.

Keli Hodnett
Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Taylor <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comments on health bill

I am a nice middle class white woman aged 65. It could be assumed that the repeal of ACA and replacement of it with the Graham-Cassidy version wouldn't affect me much. That would be very very wrong.

Giving insurers the right to increase premiums for pre-existing conditions would be devastating for my 32 year old son, who has diabetes and whose 2 year old daughter is in the process of being tested for Autism. He is a white collar worker, an urban planner in Providence RI whose salary is nonetheless so low that he qualified for WIC. His wife is currently not working because of the extra care she must provide for their daughter.

I also have pre-existing conditions, starting with being 65 years old. I have asthma, arthritis, and allergies. I recently had a skin cancer removed.

My daughter, a landscape architect, has finally, after 10 years, started a job with a large company that offers good benefits. Before then, she worked for small businesses that had poor insurance, but at least ACA required them to offer some insurance.

I live in one of the many states that has a runaway opoid and heroin epidemic. I teach in a small college in Northern New Mexico, where over and over I learn from my students about broken homes, abuse, the deaths of relatives. New Mexico, which has one of the worst and most poorly supported education system, already offers very little to help the poor overcome their circumstances (too poorly educated to hold jobs), and the drug epidemic is pushing families over the line. The G-C bill provide nothing for drug addiction treatment. Why should that bother me? Drug addicts have a great impact on my world--from violence to draining scarce financial resources from hospitals, social services, and more. (Notice that I am not talking about compassion---I've gathered that compassion is not a value for Republicans who are trying to push a bill like this through). Moreover, it isn't just poor brown people who fall into addiction--middle class white people do too. Of course, we can take the attitude that drug addicts brought it on themselves and they should suffer the consequences (die), but they don't do it in a tidy way far away from anyone who might be bothered by their decline and death.

Block grants that take funding away from states that expanded medicaid and giving it to states that rejected it will further undermine civilized life in our states. Passing money through another layer of politicians' hands will ensure that less of it gets to the people who need it, as there are too many favors politicians have to give to their allies.

I could say more, but I suspect you don't have time for long letters, and this one is already long. I will conclude then by saying that, as usual, the Republican proposal to replace ACA is repulsive, cruel, and expensive.

Susan Taylor

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kenya Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 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 [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mona Mikae [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote NO on the the Graham-Cassidy bill

To anyone reading this on behalf of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to veto the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a provider for individuals with traumatic brain injury, if this bill is passed, it will negatively impact individuals with brain injury accessing vital care.

Of note, over 90% of those on death row in the U.S. have had traumatic brain injuries, suggesting how head trauma influences one's capacity for problem solving, behavioral regulation, and higher level reasoning.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) statistics for 2010 alone (when the survey was last taken) state:

- TBIs were a factor in the deaths of more than 50,000 people in the United States
- More than 280,000 people with TBI were hospitalized
- 2.2 million people with TBI visited an emergency department ^[1].

These figures are likely an underestimate of the true number of TBIs as they exclude people who did not seek medical attention at the emergency room. Although approximately 75 percent of brain injuries are considered mild (not life-threatening), as many as 5.3 million people in the United States are estimated to be living with the challenges of long-term TBI-related disability.

Don't let this silent epidemic go untreated and neglected as a result of the Graham-Cassidy bill limiting funding for chronic and less obvious brain injuries. This will have a profound impact on the safety of our communities, families, and those afflicted.

--

Thank You!

[REDACTED]
Neuro-Psychiatric Psychologist
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information or otherwise protected by law. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Missy Corley [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy bill feedback

This bill needs to be removed from consideration for the following reasons:

- * It brings back pre-existing conditions clauses.
- * It allows insurers to raise rates when a patient receives a new diagnosis.
- * It allows states to cut funding for, or let insurers exclude:
 - * maternity services
 - * hospitalizations
 - * laboratory tests
 - * dental benefits for children
 - * mental health
 - * substance abuse programs
- * Individual states will be allowed to prevent women's clinics from charging Medicaid for services like cancer screenings and birth control.
- * It shifts billions of dollars of costs onto states, giving them incentive to cut the above items.
- * It lets states spend block grants on non-healthcare spending.
- * Federal aid for Medicaid would plummet.
- * Insurers would be able to double their surcharge on elderly customers.
- * It kills the ACA's insurance subsidies.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lia Scully <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save our Medicaid

Hello,

I am writing on behalf of all of the wonderful folks I worked with over the years that have benefitted from the wonderful Home and Community Based waiver programs as well as other critical programs funded by Medicaid. Through these programs they have been able to live fulfilling lives and interact with others in the community rather than being warehoused in nursing homes.

Over the years in my career I worked in various venues from hospitals to home care to serving the Opioid epidemic, and now I have found myself back to providing services to folks with Traumatic Brain Injuries and other Chronic Illnesses such as MS, CP, and chronic illnesses in the community.

I have been in the field of health care and human services for 21 years now. I have worked my way up until I went back to school recently and got my Master's degree that allows me to Mental Health Counseling. Most of us in the field, regardless of our position, continue to live paycheck to paycheck, including myself. We are passionate about what we do and I could not image an America where we do not continue to care for our folks who have been struck with some of life's hardest circumstances be able to remain in their own communities and being cared for by people who care so much about giving to the community. This is an important decision so PLEASE DO NOT TAKE IT LIGHTLY.

I have tried to always remember and carry myself as the saying goes, "There by the grace of God go I". Please vote with this in mind! This could be or your loved ones relaying on these given 1 single life changing incident or diagnosis.

Thank you in advance,

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This message and any attachments are solely for the intended recipient and may contain confidential information which is, or may be, legally privileged or otherwise protected by law from further disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, use, or distribution of the information included in this e-mail and any attachments is prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and immediately and permanently delete this e-mail and any attachments.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hillary Horn & Rich Ferlauto <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A deeper analysis needed...

on how to improve health care system. The Republican proposal only shunts responsibility onto the states. The real causes of high costs need to be unearthed along with the development of a policy that assures equal access to all citizens regardless of means. That would be true democracy in our great country.

Hillary Horn
Arlington, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cary Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on Graham-Cassidy health repeal bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL. Coming from a family where cancer is prevalent, reducing protections for pre-existing conditions would cripple us financially. Other members of my family have relied on Medicaid during periods of unemployment and other hardships. We're it not for this coverage and care, their conditions could easily have spiraled out of control, leading to higher long-term costs and worse health outcomes. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cary Miller

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: susan fay <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator, noreply (Merkley); wydenzzwebrespond99 (Wyden)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is NOT in My Best Interest!!!

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to let you know that I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. As a person with pre-existing conditions – asthma, stenosis, etc. – I find the proposed bill unacceptable. In my humble opinion, congress is tasked with making the lives of everyday Americans safer, healthier, less complicated, and more affordable. Furthermore, I feel it is of the utmost importance that any bill receive a complete CBO assessment. This bill does not meet any of my desired conditions and would actually weaken my present coverage and make it more expensive. Please do your best to speedily dismiss Graham-Cassidy. The American people deserve the best, not crappy legislation designed to beat a deadline.

Thank you for all your good work on my behalf!

Susan Fay
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 3
5 [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Malkia Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 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.

Malkia Johnson [REDACTED]
York Services Director
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] nc.
410-338-8320 (ext. [REDACTED])
410-338-8320 (toll-free)
mjohnson@channelmarker.org
www.channelmarker.org

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice Marie De Leon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

I believe health care is a human right. I am on Medicare now but in the past was rejected by insurance company because I am a breast cancer survivor. The only way I got insurance was to get on the National Association of Realtors group plan. Group insurance doesn't take your past history into account. NEVERTHELESS, MY PREMIUM WAS \$708 A MONTH. That was around 2004-2008. Each year my premium went up and the last increase went from 708 to 1100!!! One year I only made 11000 net and my premiums were 8400!

Even with medicare, I use 1 medication only once a week instead of twice. Prescription drugs are ridiculously high. I really care about my fellow Americans and we need HEALTH CARE, NOT INSURANCE. The homeless need health care, the very poor need health care. AND people should not lose their homes due to illness.

PLEASE VOTE AGAINST THIS NEW BILL WHICH ONLY ENABLES THE REPUBLICANS TO GIVE A HUGE TAX BREAK TO THE RICH.

--
Alice Marie De Leon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa Ryan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions creates concern for me in relation to affordable health care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Theresa Ryan
Washington State
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote YES on Graham / Cassidy Bill

I am urging all involved to vote yes and pass the Graham Cassidy Bill and put an end to this nightmare of Obamacare. Premiums have skyrocketed, deductibles have quadrupled in some cases. We are going broke. We cannot afford another minute of Obamacare.

PLEASE PASS THIS BILL

Thank You
Ed Foster
Nutley, NJ

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roxanne C <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

As a citizen, master's of nursing student, and future healthcare provider, I am deeply concerned by this bill, which looks to decrease the number of patients covered by 21 million in the coming decades. The majority of my current patients, pregnant women in Tennessee, where I live, would be left without any protection, likely without insurance, and with fewer places to seek care. As a patient with preexisting conditions, I would also be in danger of being without health insurance. No block grants can compensate for what we risk losing with this bill.

Sincerely,
Roxanne Crittenden

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Miller <[REDACTED]@camden.rutgers.edu>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose this bill

To Honorable members of the Senate Committee,

I write to ask you to oppose this legislation and to permit a bipartisan, thoughtful effort to continue.

I live in Pennsylvania, and though I myself have coverage through my employer, I recently had a conversation with my elderly neighbor who was in tears over what this bill could do to Medicare and to her health. Eighty-eight-year olds are nothing but bundles of "pre-existing" conditions, and this is of extreme concern to her. (She is, incidentally a Republican who is becoming uncertain of her future votes given the apparent mean-spiritedness of this legislation.

I also have been talking to friends who own a small business - they are doing well, but are fearful of the uncertainty in the markets, for their own health care and for their ability to attract the employees they wish to hire.

There is way to repair the parts of the ACA, it need not be abandoned with such little regard for the lives and health of so many Americans.

sincerely,
Susan Miller

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Wampler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: policy@ndss.org
Subject: Save the ACA - please restore Senate order

Dear US Senators,

Last week I saw a young man shopping at the North Decatur Kroger in Decatur, Georgia. Unremarkable? Not even close--he was a young adult with Down syndrome making choices independently, paying for his groceries, and going about his every day life, just like the rest of the shoppers in the store.

It made me consider my own 5-year-old son, Joseph--diagnosed at birth with Down syndrome. What will life hold for him? I asked my 8-year-old daughter if she had noticed the same young man shopping and his independence--"Yeah", she said, "he was cool!"

I had to explain to my own 8-year-old daughter, a 3rd grader here in public school in Decatur, Georgia, what a "per capita spending cap" is. The look on her face showed she understands that everyone deserves equal access to healthcare. I explained to her the the current Graham-Cassidy Bill will lead to steep cuts in long-term support programs critically important to people with Down syndrome, individual human beings just like her brother.

The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS), along with many other patient advocacy groups, calls for Senators to reject the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Similar to previous rejected Trumpcare proposals, Graham-Cassidy establishes Medicaid per capita spending caps. To support community integration and economic independence, people with Down syndrome need more cost-effective health insurance options and supportive services, not fewer.

Please embrace bipartisan effort to work within committee, return to regular Senate order, and continue to improve the ACA.

Thank you for your service,

Jennifer Wampler
Decatur, GA

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amber Pierce [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO ON Graham-Cassidy Bill!

Please vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a US citizen and resident of Mansfield, Connecticut, and I do not support this bill. While my own personal situation will likely be unaffected if the bill were to pass, I know many for whom this would be catastrophic. This is not a matter of "healthy people paying for sick people." Insurance by definition functions on the basis of pooled risk. It is horrifying and abhorrent to hear our representatives speak about those suffering from health issues as if it were their fault for being sick. Cancer is not a choice. There are so many health conditions over which people have no choice. To imply that healthy people deserve more or better access to care is in no uncertain terms morally wrong, and perhaps more important in this case, an unjust and unjustifiable position. Please set aside ridiculous partisanship in favor of voting in the interest of the American people. Please show your concern for your own constituents, and vote NO on this bill. This is nothing less than a life and death decision for countless people.

Sincerely,
Amber Pierce

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Feldman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Independent analyses find that 32 million Americans will lose health insurance as a result of this bill. This is not acceptable.

Every health care organization of which I am aware has come out against this bill. I urge you in the strongest possible terms to reject Graham Cassidy. Let's work together in a bi-partisan way, through regular order, to come up with a plan that helps keep America healthy.

Thank you.

David Feldman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 25 6 1000

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Missy Hernandez <missy.hernandez@ [REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill - opposition

Senate Finance Committee,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a recent graduate who makes her money with my multiple part-time teaching jobs and/or freelance work, affordability is a major concern for me and so many hardworking Americans working jobs that do not provide healthcare. All too often, we forego healthcare in order to pay our rent or put food on the table. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Missy Hernandez
Brooklyn, New York

--

Missy Hernandez

[REDACTED]
missy.hernandez@ [REDACTED].com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing on Graham-Cassidy bill

My disabled daughter relies on Medicaid. My friend's son has a preexisting condition and relies on Obamacare to keep him alive. Taking this away and passing this bill is premeditated murder.

Judy Lindenberger
New Jersey

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Agudow [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ABSOLUTELY AGAINST THIS BILL

Every few weeks the GOP senators are trying to sneak a repeal health bill in place. US Citizens will NOT have it. Like the Honorable Senator McCain says, it is overdue to have bipartisan committee to work on this matter. Get to it Senators & Congressmen; please work together. Do the hard work; that's why you were elected.

I have worked in reinsurance in the past for 13 years; I have been an HR executive for 25+ years. Nothing about a reinsurance pool is going to help pre-existing conditions coverage without it costing the applicant many thousands per year before **one thin dime is paid out**. Nothing about an HSA is going to save us either. However, HSA and high deductible plans are now a way of life, even in corporate plans. People are suffering now in corporate plans paying \$2-7K before they make deductibles and can get any copay or coinsurance. Frankly, all Congress needs to wake up to be able to solve plan design direction, and maybe it is unavoidable given sky high medical costs. But EVERYONE SHOULD GET THE SAME plans open to them. Yes, in fact, that does mean 20+% premium increases each year.....it has been like this for quite a while.....no surprise; why does Congress like to make the increase %ages sound so new? They are not new even when the system was free marketplace. I see one way that we can make this dream of all Americans have healthcare remotely possible, and that is to put everyone on Medicare -- with differing premium levels, Those 65 and over have paid into system and deserve the premiums as they stand. Rest of us can pay more if the Medicare payroll tax goes away & premiums are charged for Medicare. It is the only system, besides Medicaid, that is in place with the structure to operate covering millions of subscribers. Do not be fooled w/ Medicare either; as each year, more and more coverage items are stripped from qualification or reduced. But it covers. Medicaid should remain as it is. It is far from perfect, but it does cover masses that are too poor to afford medical coverage. VOTE NO this week.....VOTE NO. Please go do your work, Congress; and while you are at it, please make sure all members have to subscribe to the medical plan you create.

Regards,
Pat

--
Pat V. Agudow
2 [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Douglas Clark <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I write to express my strong disapproval of this bill, both its content and the process being followed. Health care is one-sixth of our nation's economy; any attempt to repeal or replace or improve the Affordable Care Act should involve bipartisan hearings taking place over several months. Many health-care-related organizations and individuals who will be harmed by this legislation have spoken out against it. I join my voice with theirs.

Sincerely,
Douglas Clark
Registered Voter

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary McKitrick <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: why I say no to Graham-Cassidy

My husband developed a lung abscess earlier this year, and because he felt so lousy, he became sedentary which led to back and hip pain. He has had 2 x-rays, 2 CT scans, 1 bronchoscopy and countless visits to the chiropractor, and more doctor visits and CT scans are in the future, since he will need to be reexamined after he finishes his 6-week course of antibiotics. The bronchoscopy alone cost over \$9500, but our health insurance covered all but \$110 of that. Bills keep coming in for anaesthesiology and radiology, and they add up. Our health insurance isn't terrific, but we've managed to stay solvent so far. If I or one of our kids were to develop a health problem as serious as this has been, we would go into debt.

The details of Graham-Cassidy bill have not been spelled out so that we can determine how the bill would affect us. All previous attempts to repeal and replace the ACA were based on bills that would have left millions of Americans uninsured or underinsured. I don't see any evidence that this newest effort is any different. It's obvious that these people don't care about the American people and don't believe that we all deserve the security of good health insurance.

If you want to replace the ACA, do it with something better, not worse. Everything the Republicans have come up with so far has been much, much worse.

Dr. Mary McKitrick
Northampton, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Prema Spozdzial [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY PLEASE PLEASE VOTE NO

Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy: newest TRUMPCARE makes no sense to Americans especially those hit by hurricanes and are suffering

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,

Janice M Spozdzial
Concerned Citizen of the United States of America

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tamara Brush <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop trying to repeal and fix it.

My husband and I turned 60 a couple of months ago. He has been determined totally disabled by Social Security but is ineligible for SSD and my income makes him ineligible for SSI. We are raising his daughter, now 14 from a prior relationship and he receives NO child support. While there is a order for support - Child Support Enforcement has been unable to locate her to serve her or an employer in which to withhold the court ordered child support from. Therefore my income is the only steady income we have - when he tries to work part time, the increased income kicks one or both of us off of Medicaid. Currently he and my stepdaughter are covered by Medicaid with copays - I was placed on family planning Medicaid which covers nothing more than a mammogram, pap smear and birth control.

My husband as many pre-existing conditions and I have hypothyroidism, high blood pressure and have begun to experience symptoms of what I believe is osteoarthritis. Without the ACA neither of us would have health insurance. At one time his medication copays totaled nearly \$150 a month.

To be quite frank, I DO NOT CARE WHAT CAMPAIGN PROMISES WERE MADE - it is the job of you as elected officials to do what is right for all those you represent, not just those who voted for you. Instead of expending your time and energy on repeated efforts to repeal the ACA how about both parties sit down and fix what it is broken?????

Senator McCain, as an Independent there is much I disagree with you on, but I agree with you on this issue - the process needs to be followed and both parties need to be involved.

Lastly, if you want to continue this way of legislating then I say the same health care rules should apply to all of you that apply to rest of us and lets see how you like having to struggle to fight for your medications, fight to deal with comply with rules you are unsure of how to comply with (premium credits) on top of the struggle of living, working and raising a family.

Tamara Brush

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Mullins <[REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

My brother relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My brother's story with pre-existing conditions is that he is a pilot and aerospace engineer, a graduate of the University of North Dakota. While at UND, he lost his flight status due to unexplainable headaches, and went through a long medical workup. Were it not for the medical financial contribution of UND covering some of his costs, he would not have been able to recover and now contribute to the economy in North Dakota by engaging in unmanned aircraft development.

While his medical issues did not manifest under the ACA, he benefited from government assistance through the university, and now has a preexisting condition that could hurt his prospects to acquire insurance to treat his condition were the ACA to be rescinded, and threaten to cut his career short yet again.

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

Sincerely,

Julie Mullins

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tracy Anderson [tracyanderson1314@outlook.com] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill - please vote no

Good afternoon,

I am writing to urge the Senate to vote down the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. This is a horrible bill that will negatively affect so many Americans. I am fortunate to have good health insurance through my husband's job. However he has a pre-existing liver condition and ulcerative colitis. I worry constantly about what will happen if he loses his job - would he get coverage, could we afford it. I worry about what the future would look like for my young daughters if healthcare is not a right, but a privilege that is only available to the very rich. I know too many people with cancer who could never afford the care they deserve if this bill passes. I am fortunate that my senators - Senator Murphy and Senator Blumenthal - are with me and will be voting no, but I worry every day about the final outcome. Please review this bill in its entirety, please listen to the 50 Medicaid directors from every state who have said this is a bad bill, PLEASE hold proper debates, please listen to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who say this is a bad bill. Please defeat this bill.

Sincerely,
Tracy Anderson
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Caroline Silverman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I am against this bill

While I myself may not have an existing condition, I have many many many family members who do. Not only that, but as a senior in college who is about to graduate and be required to find work that will not only pay me enough but will also include insurance coverage, the passage of this bill may very well have detrimental ramifications to myself in the very near future. I implore you to not pass this bill for the safety of Americans and their healthcare.

--
Caroline Silverman
[REDACTED] 8
[REDACTED]@ind.edu
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Bambusch <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no

This bill is a death sentence for millions of Americans, and a poverty trap for millions more.

Lauren Bambusch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeannette Mejias [mailto:jeannette@jeannette.com] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill -

Greetings,

I am a resident in Woodbridge, NJ and I have two children with Special Health Care needs. They rely on Medicaid for health care and community support. These services are important for my children to receive residential supports and be able to live independently.

The senate is considering a bill, the Graham-Cassidy Bill, that proposes devastating cuts to Medicaid and removes protections for people with pre-existing conditions.

11 million people with disabilities rely on critical services that help them live and participate in their community. I am asking Corey Booker to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, or any other bill that cuts or caps Medicaid.

Jeannette Mejias
Parent Leader
Woodbridge, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Edwards [REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for today's Graham-Cassidy hearing at 1pm

Hello,

I'm writing to express my desire to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I have several pre-existing conditions, so we rely on the ACA's protection for people with pre-existing conditions. Furthermore, my father-in-law would not have survived a stroke years ago without Medicaid. He suffered a brain aneurysm suddenly which was followed by a series of strokes that left him permanently disabled. Without Medicaid, my husband and our family would not have been able to afford the very expensive, specialized care he required. Because of Medicaid and the ACA, my father-in-law was able to live with dignity and our family did not experience financial ruin as the result of a family member's medical tragedy.

Sincerely,
Kate Edwards
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: smith.jennifer5899 [REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My life matters
Attachments: FB_IMG_1500995347581.jpg; FB_IMG_1506354809296.jpg

Dear Republicans,

As the party that claims to be pro-life, and representative of Christian values, why are you trying to kill so many Americans like myself, a two time cancer survivor?

I have led a healthy lifestyle, never smoked, maintained a healthy weight, but I am the one in 8 women that will be diagnosed with breast cancer.

I am a pre-existing condition, and no matter your semantics, every health care organization and advocacy group has confirmed that I will probably lose my access to health care if you pass this bill, either through my state opting to not provide a guarantee, or because of the projected \$28,000 increase in my out of pocket health care costs per year.

Go Fund Me is not an alternative to insurance coverage, and as I have already learned, churches and charities do not civer the difference.

PLEASE do what is right for me, my family, your constituents, and all of the American people by voting against this bill, and go back to the table and work with the Democrats to come up with the solutions to fix the problems that exist with the ACA.

My life depends on the protections guaranteed by Obamacare.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Smith

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alan Nissenbaum [mailto:alan.nissenbaum@hhs.gov] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hello

Without the proper opportunity for a CBO score, this action that may adversely effect millions of people, would be a serious dereliction of public service!

Please do the right thing. REJECT THIS and insist on a better alternative!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Polly Shulman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please fix the ACA, do not repeal it!

My husband and I get our healthcare through the ACA. My brother, who has multiple disabilities, is a colorectal cancer survivor and has Parkinson's Disease; he's on Medicaid. Without coverage, he would surely be dead today. 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,

Polly Shulman
527 West 110th Street Apt. 52
New York, NY 10025

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Goettsch <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. It is terribly sad that there are so many selfish Republicans in this country who would deny health care to impoverished citizens of the wealthiest nation on earth.

Susan Goettsch
Native born US citizen with employer-sponsored health care

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dennis G Heaphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't Take Away Our Healthcare

Dear Committee Members,

Please oppose the Grand Cassidy Bill. It is dangerous and will hurt hundreds of thousands of people like me who have disabilities and rely in Medicaid to survive.

Cutting Medicaid will hurt state economies and take away jobs from millions of people.

Please do not go down in history being remembered as a Congress that took away healthcare from the poorest and most vulnerable people in America.

Appealing to your sense of humanity and ethics,
Dennis Heaphy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alli Link [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 2pm 9/25/17 meeting of the Senate finance committee

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy act. It is unconscionable to me that our elected officials would even think of killing off the ACA, which has covered so many more Americans and decreased the trajectory of medical costs and imposing this new law which will upend the insurance and medical fields, and throw so many citizens off health insurance. From what I've read, not one industry involved in the medical field is in favor of this law.

What we need is a thoughtful, bipartisan discussion of how to improve the ACA and how to finance it so that as many Americans as possible can have basic, affordable health care.

Thank you for your attention to this letter and for your responsiveness to your fellow Americans.

Allison Link
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Durelle DeMarkey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO!

Please vote NO on this bill. We know who is being bribed. Do what's right for all American's.
Today, you make history. Which side do you want to be on?
Don't be bullied. We're watching.
Thank you.
Durelle DeMarkey CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jim Fusilli <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to register my objection to the bill under consideration. It seems punitive toward those among us who most need help. The entire process of whether to improve the ACA or to repeal and replace it has seemed cloaked in secrecy and, given the Trump administration's seemingly relentless undermining of the current program, distasteful and unworthy of our great country and our fellow countrymen, women and children to whom you are committed to serve. I believe we can do much, much better.

Thank you,

Vincent James Fusilli

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paige Grand Pre <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

To Whom it May Concern,

Trumpcare is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote "yes" on Trumpcare will be remembered in the next election and history books as anti-American. The medical profession is against it, as are the majority of citizens in this country.

Work on improving Obamacare - don't scrap it and put us right back at square one with millions of Americans left uninsured all over again. If the Graham-Cassidy bill passes, their blood will be on the hands of those who voted and/or supported it.

Sincerely,

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy: Illness is a Hurricane, Personally and Financially

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this month, the Senate rightly and generously voted to authorize billions of dollars in assistance to residents of the states hit hard by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

How is it that Congress is unable to see how similar illness is to a hurricane? Like floods and high winds, serious illness is personally and financially devastating to its victims. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses are as much the victims of a natural disaster as are those whose lives, livelihood and homes are destroyed by a hurricane. They deserve to be treated with the same consideration and generosity of spirit as the hurricane victims. This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronnie

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Johnnie Corrie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill BAD

I do NOT support this awful legislation.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Smith Galtney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: stopping the ACA 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,
Smith Galtney
Raymond, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susie O'Connell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy bill.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My experience dealing with anxiety and depression from a traumatic c-section would be considered a pre-existing condition, and as a freelance worker, it scares me that I might not get decent, affordable coverage, and what that would mean for my young children. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. We pay for you guys to work together to improve our country, but it seems like you don't care about the general population, merely your own parties and your own agendas. It needs to stop before it destroys us.

Sincerely,
Susie O'Connell
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debra Josefchak <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:10 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. Under this proposed bill, states could allow insurers to charge higher prices to customers with a history of significant illness, and thus premiums could be unaffordable for many Americans. Older people may be charged more than 3x as much as younger people. Insurers could return to yearly and lifetime limits on coverage. Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill and work together to come up with ways to improve problems that do exist in the ACA.

Most sincerely,
Debra Josefchak

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lane Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony on Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am a citizen and voter from Virginia whose life was changed dramatically by the Affordable Care Act, and I am offering my testimony to explain the importance of the protections within it. About six years ago, I went on a medication to correct a hormone imbalance. Two years after that, I added an SSRI to deal with anxiety that therapy and lifestyle changes hadn't been able to reduce.

The hormones had already changed my energy level, body image and self-esteem, but the effects of the anxiety medication were magical. Before the medication I had frequent anxiety attacks, couldn't cope with irregular schedules, struggled to interact with strangers, and hated driving or using the phone. After I started taking the meds, my anxiety attacks stopped and none of my usual triggers were overwhelming. I began thinking about something I hadn't thought was a possibility; returning to college.

Because the ACA provides affordable coverage to those with pre-existing conditions, I was able to switch from full time work (where my employer covered my insurance) to part time and start taking classes. My doctors and I have agreed, based on what has helped me, that my mental health issues seem to be primarily biological. For some people anxiety is mainly linked to life events, or is a blend of biological and environmental factors. But when therapy doesn't help but medication does, it's a good sign that the patient's brain just isn't making enough serotonin. This means that, if I had to stop taking my regular medications, my hectic student life would once again become impossible.

I am taking health classes and am deciding between medical laboratory work and behavioral therapy. Both are fields in high demand. I want to be a productive, hardworking citizen, but I am not able to without assistance in daily medical needs. The ACA helps me to achieve that dream of being someone who gives back to my country. The Graham-Cassidy Bill will strip the law of the exact protections I need to reach my potential and make this nation great. This monstrosity cannot pass.

Sincerely,
Lane William Brown

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Siegel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Don't take health care away from millions of our fellow citizens. If you care about them, then fix what you think is wrong with the Affordable Care Act. Don't be heartless just because you've pledged to do something you think your voters want you to do. Our lives are more important than politics!

Jane Siegel

Jane A. Siegel, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Social Work
Rutgers University
469 [REDACTED] Street
Camden, NJ 08102
[REDACTED] phone
[REDACTED] fax
[REDACTED] email

Author of: [Disrupted Childhoods: Children of Women in Prison](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Miriam Geryol <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@johnnyisakson.com
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing, Monday Sept. 25 2017

Name: Miriam Geryol
Address: 1091 Los Angeles Ave NE Atlanta GA 30306

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter has a spinal condition that will require one major surgery with the possibility of other surgeries during her lifetime. She will need care related to this condition for the rest of her life. She was born with this condition. Graham-Cassidy puts her coverage at risk with diminished protections for pre-existing conditions and the potential for the return of lifetime and annual coverage caps. In addition, premiums are projected to increase under Graham-Cassidy. Every patient group, physician group, and insurance group has come out against this bill and has confirmed the FACT that protections for people with pre-existing conditions is decreased in the Graham-Cassidy bill. A full CBO score has not been seen and will not be seen prior to a vote on this bill. It is completely irresponsible to vote on a bill that impacts 19% of the country's economy without seeing its full economic impact.

I would like to see bipartisan Congressional effort to improve our health care.

Sincerely,

Miriam Geryol

1091 Los Angeles Ave NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Somers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....
the thought if people bring denied insurance due to a pre-existing condition is terrible to me. Ten years ago I had a breast biopsy that showed a premalignant condition. This would be enough for a company to deny me coverage. Clearly this would be immoral. Other people with congenital problems could be denied also. Don't let this happen.

Nancy Somers
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Blanche Niksich [redacted] m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal of the ACA

Distinguished Congress:

I'd like to tell my story. I was diagnosed with breast cancer about three plus years ago and had a bilateral mastectomy. The cancer was only on one side, but I figured I'd save money for the system and myself if I had both breasts removed since i didn't want to go through the whole thing again if the cancer came back. Cancer is pretty rampant in my family: my mother, two aunts and various cousins have been diagnosed and/or died from the disease. I worked as an RN throughout most of my treatment. I love my job as an RN and I really couldn't afford not to work. It was hard, but I didn't have many resources to get help. This was strong chemo therapy for 5 months then five weeks of radiation WHILE I WAS WORKING. Can you imagine the difficulty I incurred dealing with all this? Please try. I was bald as a baby and very weak. Tough stuff. I have been on a drug called anastrazol, which lowers my hormones, because my cancer feeds off of hormones, but it also causes bone loss. My last bone density test showed that I had significant loss. I have to be on this drug for five years and I am currently into it for half that time. I fell recently and broke my wrist. As a result, I went for an infusion of zomeda to build up bone mass. This drug gives me unbearable pain, but since I am diagnosed with end stage osteoporosis, I need to take this drug. If i didn't have decent health care what would happen to me? I will be working soon as an RN and continuing to pay extremely high taxes. I love this country and need health care that doesn't exclude pre-existing conditions.

Sincerely,
Joyce Niksich, RN
[redacted]

Success is not a path you find -- it's a trail you blaze.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Marshall [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

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

Ellen Marshall, 2420 Montrose St, Phila, PA 19146

Dear Congresspersons,

Millions of Americans and I rely on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. While I enjoy good health now, I know that as I age this could change. Moreover, I need the peace-of-mind of knowing that if I ever suffer an accident then I have access to good care. Healthcare should be fully available to every American regardless of age, health status, or circumstance. If there is to be any action on health care it should be a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Ellen Marshall
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Glassey [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Lauren Glassey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marnie Whalen [mailto:marnie.w@hhs.gov] [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

My family and community 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,

[redacted]
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Wang <xtine000@grm[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 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. Though I am currently young, healthy, and can afford healthcare, I know this may not always be the case and not all are as lucky. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Christine Wang

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Chicago, IL 60611

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Anne Wisnewski <[REDACTED]@comcast.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

As a Registered Nurse working in my community, I have a high stake in the health care issue.

The only way would support the repeal of "Obamacare" is if you replace it with **MEDICARE FOR ALL**.

Americans are sick and tired of being screwed by insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies. We all know that Congress gets lots of dirty money from these heavily lobbied industries. This is not only immoral but disgusting and utterly reprehensible to profit off the suffering of other human beings.

Start doing the right thing for Americans instead of being *corporate tools*.

So sick of this endless bullshit, **MEDICARE FOR ALL**.

Do the job you were elected to do, serve your constituents!!!

Mary Anne Wisnewski, RN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tristin Sale [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern at Senate Finance,

I'm not going to tell you a sob story about my conditions, or those of my friends. Don't get me wrong, I could. I could tell a tale of a now 17 year old who was born with hypoplastic left heart, and what he faces if limits on pre-existing conditions return.

No, I want to give you the vision from the other end, the top end. Before the ACA, my employer, Microsoft, provided what you classed as Cadillac care. It was in reality just comprehensive coverage, but that's so rare in this country as to be considered gold plated. In anticipation of the ACA, our insurance was changed to a high deductible plan with a medical savings account. We now face a 10% share of costs once the high deductible is met, up to a yearly cap.

But I am not writing you to complain that my coverage declined. I knew it would. I accept that in effort to cover everyone, we would have to pay more. I did then and do still today support the ACA.

I do worry what coverage will be available for me when I no longer work at Microsoft. When I leave here, I'll be in the high cost age range. If I had my preference I'd ask that you reduce the Medicare age to 50, and move those super consumers of health care (Those costing hundreds of thousand or a million dollars a month) on to Medicare. But I understand those changes are out of reach at this time. So instead, I just ask that you not rollback the progress we've made.

Please oppose Graham-Cassidy. There is not one single medical industry group that backs it. Let Senator Alexander and Senator Murry return to work on trying to stabilize our current system.

By supporting this amendment you are displaying in no uncertain terms that under the current Republican party our government, our democracy, our very lives are for sale. We are watching, and we will not forget.

Tristin Sale
Washington State

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kayleigh Stratton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on reliable, affordable healthcare. It's for this reason that I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family relies on Medicaid, and it has on more than one occasion saved our lives - literally. When he was 22 months old, my oldest son suffered a traumatic fall from approximately eight feet up onto his back on solid concrete. If you've never been in the position of watching something horrific happen to your child while you actively attempt to prevent it, I cannot properly explain how it feels. Seeing your child suffer an injury that could destroy their future, leave them permanently disabled, or kill them is the worst feeling in the world - second only to burying a child.

I clearly remember the meaningless details. I remember trying desperately to figure out if we should call an ambulance, or try to take him to the ER ourselves (as someone else called 911). I was in no place to make that decision at the time. I remember him laying strapped to a body board for NINE HOURS as our local hospital, ill equipped to deal with that injury in a child his age, went back and forth with the closest children's hospital some two hours away. I remember anxiously driving behind the ambulance that they used to transfer him, driving through a blizzard because our local air evac couldn't take off in the storm. I remember having so much time in the car - the trip should have taken two hours but took nearly four instead - to be terrified about how we'd pay for these things. I broke down so many times, in fear for my child and for the impending financial ruin I was horrified was coming, on top of whatever continuing care he would need.

Thankfully for Medicaid, we owed NOTHING. Our son suffers few obvious continuing problems, and our lives have gone on. We were SO lucky to have Medicaid there to back us up and ensure that an accident didn't completely destroy us. Without it, we would have owed literally tens of thousands of dollars, an impossible sum for two college kids from modest backgrounds.

Please don't let our story become the rare situation. We need the ACA, but moreso, we need Medicare for all like the rest of the civilized world.

Thank you.

Kayleigh Stratton
Quincy, IL

--
Kayleigh Stratton
([REDACTED])

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Restivo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I urge all Republican Senators to vote against this cynical effort to destabilizing medical delivery in America in order to satisfy the preferences of Republican donors. The party is engaged in a disgusting spectacle that would ultimately hurt the American people. Members should be ashamed of it.

Robert Restivo
Naperville, Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shavawn Berry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy "Health Care" legislation

To Whom It May Concern & Lindsay Graham and Bill Cassidy,

Your proposed 'health care' legislation is not a health care bill at all. It is a giveaway (as usual) to the rich.

It will leave 30 million more people uninsured and well as threaten the health care coverage many Americans get from their employers. It dismantles the pre-existing condition clause in the ACA, and tacks on tremendous expenses to most health conditions, to the point of making health care impossible for just about every person in this country.

As a person who has allergies, sleep apnea, high blood pressure and cancer in my family, your so-called health care bill would make it impossibly expensive for me or my family members to get care. If you gut Medicare, my mother will have no health care at all. What this will result in is taxpayer funded Emergency Care for most people. Public hospitals care for people who pass through the ER. They can't refuse to care for them. Who foots the bill? The taxpayer. Not the rich taxpayer, mind you. It is the middle-class taxpayer and the working poor taxpayer who foots that bill because we actually pay taxes. We - the average people of this nation - foot the bill while our legislative branch enjoys the Cadillac of healthcare coverage. That way, you have no skin in the game. It's fine to screw us over because it will never affect you.

However, you cannot continue to favor the minority rich whilst devastating the vast majority of the people in this country. It is time for single-payer, Medicare for all. It is cheaper. Everyone is covered. Let's join the civilized world and offer what most countries have offered for decades. No to Graham Cassidy and the cynical attempt to dismantle and decimate health care. YES to Single-Payer. NOW.

Shavawn M. Berry

Shavawn M. Berry
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CAROL POULOS <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on GrahamCassidy

I urge all to vote NO on GrahamCassidy, which is harmful to Americans. I am disgusted with the Republicans in Congress who are only concerned with what the far right corporate interests push them to do and with their sabotage of the ACA. The ACA needs improvements, but has proven to help millions of Americans. Taking any of the ACA improvements away is unacceptable and harmful!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Becca Zanello <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham/Cassidy act

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy act. It is unconscionable that our elected officials would even think of killing off the ACA, which has covered so many more Americans and decreased the trajectory of medical costs and imposing this new law which will upend the insurance and medical fields, and throw so many citizens off health insurance. From what I've read, not one industry involved in the medical field is in favor of this law.

What we need is a thoughtful, bipartisan discussion of how to improve the ACA and how to finance it so that as many Americans as possible can have basic, affordable health care.

Thank you,
Becca Zanello

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Abel Corver <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I strongly oppose the Graham/Cassidy proposal

Dear Sir/Madam,

I strongly oppose the bill introduced by Graham/Cassidy. I urge all members of the Finance Committee, by means of in-depth questioning and otherwise, to bring to light the devastating nature of this bill to the American public.

My zip code is 21218.

Sincerely,
Abel Corver

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Mac [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing September 25, 2017

I would like to have my views added to the record.

My name is Patricia S McElroy, 289 Farmingdale Avenue, Winston Salem, NC 27107. I am 66 years old, retired, and my Social Security check of \$1263.00 per month is my only income.

I currently take 11 medications on a daily basis, and 1 as needed. I suffer from type 2 diabetes, diabetic neuropathy, high cholesterol and COPD. As such, I would be considered to have a pre-existing condition.

My understanding of this bill would leave me vulnerable to higher rates to be insured as there is no definition of "adequate and affordable" coverage. That to me, means whatever the insurance company feels is "adequate and affordable". I cannot afford any increase in my insurance payments, and I believe millions of others feel the same way.

To push through a bill that approximately 24% of the county approves of is ludicrous. The excuse that "it was promised during the election" holds no water. You could take the time and work with Democrats to fix the ACA is the smart thing to do.

Please KILL THIS BILL!

Thank you for your time,
Patricia S McElroy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Winston Salem, NC 27107

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Crawford <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Diane Crawford
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Reed [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Sir/Madame,

I am strongly opposed to passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am 64 years old and in good health but along with others my age, who belong to AARP, I understand that I will face an "age tax". I also have several extended family members who have preexisting health conditions, including a great-niece with DiGeorge's syndrome. She was born with several holes in her heart but thanks to the Affordable Care Act she was able to get the surgery she needed and is currently enrolled in Kindergarten and doing well. Her family will not be able to get the medical care she needs if people with preexisting health conditions are denied coverage or have exorbitant health care costs.

Please vote against the Graham-Cassidy health bill!

Sincerely,

Barbara Reed
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Wieder <[REDACTED]@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL ACA OBAMACARE NO TO GRAHAMCASSIDY BILL

MY FAMILY HAS INSURANCE THROUGH THE HEALTH EXCHANGE. MY HUSBAND HAS A HEART CONDITION AND HAS HAD KNEE SURGERY. WE ARE TERRIFIED OF HIS LOSING COVERAGE FOR THESE THINGS. WE ARE TERRIFIED OF LOSING OUR PROTECTIONS UNDER OBAMACARE. WE ARE TERRIFIED OF OUR SON LOSING HIS INSURANCE UNTIL HE GETS HIS OWN THROUGH HIS WORK. WE ARE TERRIFIED OF NOT BEING COVERED FOR A PREEXISTING CONDITION. WE ARE TERRIFIED OF NOT HAVING ESSENTIAL BENEFITS THAT COVER MAMMOGRAMS, WELLNESS CHECK UPS AND MORE. WE ARE TERRIFIED OF HAVING TO PAY MORE FOR PREMIUMS BECAUSE OF OUR AGE AND THE UNCERTAINTY YOU ARE CREATING WITH THESE HORRIBLE TACTICS TO TRY TO DESTROY OUR HEALTH INSURANCE AND TAKE IT AWAY FROM MILLIONS OF PEOPLE INCLUDING OUR VETERANS. STOP INTERFERING WITH OUR HEALTH CARE. SUPPORT A SINGLE PAYER MEDICARE FOR ALL PUBLIC OPTION INSTEAD WHICH IS CHEAPER, RELIABLE AND EFFECTIVE. STOP BEING A SHILL FOR THE INSURANCE AND PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

WE ARE FED UP WITH YOUR HORRIBLE LACK OF LEADERSHIP AND LACK OF COOPERATION WITH THE OTHER SIDE OF THE AISLE TO FIX OUR HEALTH INSURANCE NOT RUIN IT. PROTECT AMERICANS AND STOP LYING

ROBIN WIEDER

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Lehman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Allen County Board of DD board member

As a member of the Allen County Board of DD and a trustee of the Ohio Association of County Boards I urge you to **vote NO** of the Graham-Cassidy Health Care proposal. Our most vulnerable and needy individuals would be put at risk by the bill. A society is judged by how well it cares for its most vulnerable members. We, in the U.S. and especially in Ohio, are a compassionate and caring people who value quality healthcare for our most needy constituents. Think of the individuals you serve, not the self serving politicians who are promoting this bill. Linda L. Lehman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

This bill is irresponsible. Millions will lose health insurance.
Please do not advance it.

Elizabeth Kuhlman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Salt Lake City, UT 84143

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: david orsini <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Katherine Orsini; melissa orsini
Subject: G-C

PLEASE vote NO on the G-C bill. I am a voter from Arkansas. My family's health insurance depends on the Affordable Care Act. Arkansas is a poor state and will not be able to make up the absence of federal funds due to any reduction of federal support. Approximately 300,000 Arkansans depend on the AFC's assistance for health insurance. Please do not throw us under the bus! We need your support in the form of a NO vote on G-C. And then get busy fixing the problems with the AFC including provisions dealing with compensation to insurance companies.

Thank you.

David

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen D'Attore [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't play politics with our health

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband, my youngest son and myself would all qualify as having preexisting conditions. I became ill with a chronic disease long before the ACA was enacted. My husband was out of work at the time and I was working a part-time job with no benefits while I was caring for our two young sons. We are upper middle class, yet the costs associated with my illness nearly bankrupted us. I had to delay needed surgery until I could get a job with benefits. If I had been denied those benefits or charged a prohibitive amount due to a pre-existing condition I just don't know what would have happened. For people with less resources and support than I had, I am really at a loss for how they could have recovered from their health ailments as well as financially. Playing politics with our health care unconscionable. I stand with the majority of Americans who would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Karen D'Attore
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amber Kirchoff <Amber.Kirchoff@thresholds.org>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Heather O'Donnell
Subject: Re: Testimony to Senate Finance Committee related to Graham-Cassidy Hearing

DATE: September 25, 2017

TO: Finance Committee of the United States Senate

CC: Senator Dick Durbin, Senator Tammy Duckworth

FROM: Heather O'Donnell – Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Advocacy at Thresholds

SUBJECT: Testimony related to the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Amendment scheduled for September 25, 2017

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, and Honorable Committee Members,

I submit this testimony on behalf of Thresholds to express our opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Amendment to H.R. 1628, the American Health Care Act of 2017. Furthermore, we urge Congress to reject any efforts that would result in the loss of healthcare coverage or the reduction of benefits.

Thresholds has been providing community-based mental health and substance use treatment services for over 50 years. We provide care to more than 15,000 individuals across seven counties in northern Illinois including the greater Chicagoland area. We are proud to provide a full range of services to people living with serious and persistent mental health and substance use conditions including psychiatry, therapy, housing, case management, medication monitoring, and supported education and employment.

Repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has very serious implications. Recent census data indicates that uninsured rates are at all-time lows due in large part to the ACA. Today, 93% of Illinoisans have healthcare coverage^[1] which has paved the way for unprecedented access to mental health and substance use treatment. Across the nation, more than 30 million Americans have gained healthcare coverage through the ACA including more than 1 million in Illinois alone. Hundreds of thousands of these Illinoisans have a mental health and/or substance use condition.

If this amendment were to pass, the impact on Illinois would be disastrous. Shifting Medicaid expansion funds and the ACA's financial assistance into the "Market Based Health Care Block Grant Program," will cost Illinois \$8 billion dollars between 2020 and 2026. When the block grant expires, Illinois will lose \$10 billion in 2027 alone. In combination with other proposals in the bill, including a dangerous per-capita-cap for the traditional Medicaid program, Illinois will lose a total of \$135 billion in federal funding for healthcare, more than all but four other states.^[2]

While no state could realistically make up for this level of divestment, Illinois is especially ill-prepared to withstand such deep cuts given the severity of our ongoing budget challenges. If this amendment were to become law, inevitably Illinois and other states will be forced to reduce benefits, eligibility, and rates for their Medicaid programs – devastating access for some of the most high need populations including children, the disabled, and those living with mental health and substance use conditions. Without treatment, mental health and substance use conditions do not just disappear – they are life-long, chronic illnesses. Data shows that when treatment is no longer accessible, hospitalizations soar, driving up healthcare costs.^[3]

As communities across Illinois and the nation combat a lethal opioid epidemic and a longstanding mental health crisis, now is not the time to cut Medicaid – a primary source of coverage and an avenue to treatment.

In addition to the gains in coverage, the ACA provides historic consumer protections that this amendment threatens to undermine. The plan risks protections for people living with pre-existing conditions such as a mental health or substance use condition. It also jeopardizes the guarantee of coverage for a core set of basic types of healthcare, known as Essential Health Benefits, which includes mental health and substance use treatment.

Moreover, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) announced that they will only issue a partial score for this legislation. The preliminary score will be limited to the federal budget implications. This assessment will not include estimated losses to coverage and changes in premiums, meaning we cannot be sure what this bill will mean for the tens of millions of Americans who have gained coverage under the ACA. Absent a full mark-up, it would be premature to advance this proposal.

We urge the Senate and the House to slow down this process and to thoroughly vet proposals through both a fiscal impact and human impact lens. We suggest that a full CBO score be completed and reviewed, and that public hearings are held to allow for a robust and informed dialogue prior to any action being taken on this or other healthcare repeal efforts. We also encourage members of Congress to work together on a bipartisan basis to develop solutions that strengthen access to coverage and improve the quality and affordability of benefits.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this critical issue. For more information, please contact me at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Heather O'Donnell

[REDACTED] President Public Policy and Advocacy
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Harry Drake [mailto:hdrake59@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please Stop Graham-Cassidy Bill or anything that has to do with cutting Medicaid. My Benefits. I have HIV and a lot of other illnesses and Medicaid is keeping me alive. Please.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary C. Ott [REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Objection to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill under consideration

Members of the Senate Committee on Finance:

I am writing to express deep concern regarding GCH and to urge the committee to reject this ill-considered legislation and to instead work in a bi-partisan fashion to develop better legislation that serves the American people.

The health system is vitally important to Americans and this legislation would impair many Americans' access to needed care. Both parties, state governors and the health sector all have considerable expertise and good ideas on how to improve healthcare that should be taken into account. In addition, the GCH bill has been developed without consulting CBO scoring or analyses by independent research organizations. Despite being developed in the back room and rushed to vote, GCH has been analyzed by several recognized think tanks and research organizations which conclude that it will inevitably lead to large-scale reductions in the number of insured, and that it endangers coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions like me.

The current legislative process, including today's perfunctory hearing, ignores this expertise and will only lead to legislation harmful to American families such as mine. I stand with Americans of both parties who are disgusted by a process that is not transparent, not democratic, and is openly attempting to buy votes by adding sweeteners to the bill that are only available to states whose reluctant Senators might be willing to be "bought."

Any political benefit the Republican Party might perceive from this miserable bill will be quickly overshadowed by the anger and disillusionment Americans will feel when they and their families lose access to healthcare.

Sincerely,

Mary Ott
[REDACTED]

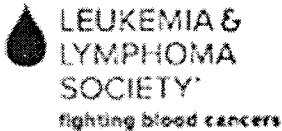
Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Connell, Brian (National Office) <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: LLS Statement for Graham-Cassidy SFC hearing
Attachments: LLS Statement re Graham Cassidy - 9.20.2017.pdf

On behalf of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, I am submitting the attached statement as public testimony for today's Graham-Cassidy hearing. Let us know if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Thanks,
Brian

Brian Connell | Senior Director, Federal Affairs
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



is today[®]

NOTICE: This message, including all attachments transmitted with it, is for the use of the addressee only. It may contain proprietary, confidential and/or legally privileged information. No confidentiality or privilege is waived or lost by any mistransmission. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not, directly or indirectly, use, disclose, distribute, print or copy any part of this message. If you believe you have received this message in error, please delete it and all copies of it from your system and notify the sender immediately by reply email. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hannorah Thurman [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I work with children with disabilities and/or pre-existing conditions and their families, and I myself experience significant issues with affordability for my family. My husband served our country in the Army as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division. We love this country, we love our children, we love our friends, and we love our fellow Americans. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Hannorah [redacted] Woodruff
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: libby edwards <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal

Gentlemen and Ladies:

This bill would cause great harm to millions of Americans. The congress governs for all of us--for the Republicans to push through a poorly vetted bill such as the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill is simply amoral. The entire medical industry opposes it, as do many insurance carriers. Please do not finance this lousy bill. Make the congress work together to build on the ACA and create a health care system that truly services the people.

Thank you.:

Libby Edwards
[REDACTED]
NYC, NY [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Barksdale <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I currently have family members and friends who rely on quality, affordable healthcare. As a freelance musician working as an independent contractor I also relied on Obamacare during its first year. Many of my friends are musicians, artists, working independently in a field where it is extremely difficult to find a job that provides health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have other friends and family members whose life circumstances have changed due to divorce, marriage, deaths of loved ones, changes in their careers. No one should have to fear losing their coverage due to these types of events and life changes. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I believe we ultimately need universal health insurance, but before that can happen I would much rather see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The health of our citizens depends on this!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Barksdale
Providence, RI

--
Lisa Barksdale

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

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

"Between the mind that plans and the hands that build there must be a mediator, and this must be the heart." -
Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Grace Raso [REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on accessing affordable and quality healthcare through the ACA. I am currently nine months pregnant - I thought the threat of losing our affordable healthcare was finally ended earlier this summer, but the threat has reared its head again, in a decidedly worse state with the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am due in ten days, as if there are not enough things to be concerned with during a pregnancy, we have had this looming threat over us my entire pregnancy - will we be able to afford healthcare for our family? God forbid the baby is born with a serious health issue, will we be able to afford any necessary life-saving procedures? 80% of Americans disapprove of this and each one of the GOP's attempts to repeal and replace the ACA. The American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association have condemned this bill - for whom then are you drafting this bill?

As my husband often says - it is much easier to destroy something than create it. As Paul Ryan has said himself - it's very easy to be a party of no. I implore the Senate to seek a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Here are the many ways my family has benefited from the ACA:

I can tell you about my father being laid off from a job he held for 36 years, providing for our family financially and with health benefits for all my life. I can tell you that my mother and youngest sister then lost their health coverage when my father lost that job. I can tell you that my mother herself held a full time job that did not offer healthcare benefits. My mother and sister were facing no healthcare options, but miraculously the year this happened to my father was the year the ACA was passed, and my mother and youngest sister were able to afford, not just access, healthcare through the ACA. My father was saved from this - he was old enough to receive Medicare. The only thing we can thank his terminal cancer for was that it waited until he aged into Medicare to present itself. If it had come any earlier - we would have faced the choice to deny him healthcare and any hope of recovery, or bankrupt our family seeking the proper healthcare. This is the United States of America - in what way does that seem to be the logical and righteous choice for a hardworking American family?

I can tell you about how my father in law, a small business owner with a heart condition, was denied health insurance due to this pre-existing condition, and encountered a \$50,000 medical bill for life-saving heart surgery. I can tell you that with the passage of the ACA / Obamacare, for the first time in years, he was able to not only enroll in healthcare, but was able to afford the healthcare by not being discriminated against for a heart condition he has had since birth. He is a healthy, fit man otherwise, trying his hardest to remain so, but being born with a heart condition, you are not given a choice.

I can tell you about my family - my husband and I both small business owners who have always purchased our own healthcare. With the ACA, finally maternity care is included - when I called my health insurance company to ask them about the maternity coverage, it was with great delight to hear "with Obamacare, you are automatically covered." Before the ACA, I had several friends who were denied maternity coverage, kicked off

of insurance, or faced medical bills of \$40,000 plus for birthing a baby. As news of the continual threats to the ACA with catastrophic replacement bills, I stay up at night with fear, praying that this child I am carrying, our first child, is born healthy, and that I will not need a C-Section - for fear that both myself and my child will be denied healthcare under the Republican reforms.

I can tell you that bankruptcy has sharply declined in the United States since the ACA went into effect. The majority of American families seek bankruptcy as the result of medical expenses and unexpected illness. Is the America the Republicans want to go back to?

I can tell you all of these things - but to date, the well-being of the American people does not seem to be of much concern to the Republican party. My family has been lifelong Republicans, but today there is little reason to support the party that seems to offer no support or concern for their constituents.

Sincerely,

Grace Raso
Detroit, MI 48211
cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 11:24 AM, Grace Raso <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on accessing affordable and quality healthcare through the ACA. I am currently nine months pregnant - I thought the threat of losing our affordable healthcare was finally ended earlier this summer, but it the threat has reared its head again, in a decidedly worse state with the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am due in ten days, as if there are not enough things to be concerned with during a pregnancy, we have had this looming threat over us my entire pregnancy - will we be able to afford healthcare for our family? God forbid the baby is born with a serious health issue, will we be able to afford any necessary life-saving procedures? 80% of Americans disapprove of this and each one of the GOP's attempts to repeal and replace the ACA. The American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association have condemned this bill - for whom then are you drafting this bill?

As my husband often says - it is much easier to destroy something than create it. As Paul Ryan has said himself - it's very easy to be a party of no. I implore the Senate to seek a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Here are the many ways my family has benefited from the ACA:

I can tell you about my father being laid off from a job he held for 36 years, providing for our family financially and with health benefits for all my life. I can tell you that my mother and youngest sister then lost their health coverage when my father lost that job. I can tell you that my mother herself held a full time job that did not offer healthcare benefits. My mother and sister were facing no healthcare options, but miraculously the year this happened to my father was the year the ACA was passed, and my mother and

youngest sister were able to afford, not just access, healthcare through the ACA. My father was saved from this - he was old enough to receive Medicare. The only thing we can thank his terminal cancer for was that it waited until he aged into Medicare to present itself. If it had come any earlier - we would have faced the choice to deny him healthcare and any hope of recovery, or bankrupt our family seeking the proper healthcare. This is the United States of America - in what way does that seem to be the logical and righteous choice for a hardworking American family?

I can tell you about how my father in law, a small business owner with a heart condition, was denied health insurance due to this pre-existing condition, and encountered a \$50,000 medical bill for life-saving heart surgery. I can tell you that with the passage of the ACA / Obamacare, for the first time in years, he was able to not only enroll in healthcare, but was able to afford the healthcare by not being discriminated against for a heart condition he has had since birth. He is a healthy, fit man otherwise, trying his hardest to remain so, but being born with a heart condition, you are not given a choice.

I can tell you about my family - my husband and I both small business owners who have always purchased our own healthcare. With the ACA, finally maternity care is included - when I called my health insurance company to ask them about the maternity coverage, it was with great delight to hear "with Obamacare, you are automatically covered." Before the ACA, I had several friends who were denied maternity coverage, kicked off of insurance, or faced medical bills of \$40,000 plus for birthing a baby. As news of the continual threats to the ACA with catastrophic replacement bills, I stay up at night with fear, praying that this child I am carrying, our first child, is born healthy, and that I will not need a C-Section - for fear that both myself and my child will be denied healthcare under the Republican reforms.

I can tell you that bankruptcy has sharply declined in the United States since the ACA went into effect. The majority of American families seek bankruptcy as the result of medical expenses and unexpected illness. Is the America the Republicans want to go back to?

I can tell you all of these things - but to date, the well-being of the American people does not seem to be of much concern to the Republican party. My family has been lifelong Republicans, but today there is little reason to support the party that seems to offer no support or concern for their constituents.

Sincerely,

Grace Raso

cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betty Cauler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:07 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 it would harm 32 million in order to beat the September 30th deadline rather than holding a real public debate or waiting for proper vetting by the CBO. This Republican effort to bypass the laws of the United States of America in order to push through flawed legislation under shady congressional loopholes is truly deplorable.

Please listen to the voices of the people you are being paid to represent who will lose their health insurance because of their age, pre-existing conditions or the ability to pay high premiums. Fix Obamacare; do not repeal. Or better yet, REALLY listen to the vox populi and pass the "Medicare for All Act of 2017" by Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders and his fifteen co-sponsors. Take the insurance companies and big pharma out of the picture and everyone's health care costs will go down dramatically.

We have spoken. You have yet to listen. Please do the right thing.

Betty E. Cauler

Betty Cauler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Jacqmin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

As a former Ohio and now California resident, I urge you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

My father turns 70 in three weeks. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease when he was 54. 15 years into his diagnosis, he is cognitively disabled and has new physical limitations every day. Part of PD is the gradual shutting down of neural pathways - pathways that the body uses to walk, swallow, and breathe. PD is a degenerative disease - it never gets better, it only gets worse. My father was forced to retire before he wanted to because he couldn't remember his computer password (he was a physicist at NASA Lewis Research Center outside of Cleveland for 30 years) - at times, he couldn't remember what a "password" was. Graham-Cassidy says that his yearly costs will skyrocket - and when he needs to go into a skilled nursing facility (which is a guarantee with PD), there will be no Medicaid to fall back on.

This bill is cruel. It is being shoved through by special interest groups and wealthy businessmen.

Ready for a surprise? I'm a fellow one-percenter. I write for television and am exceedingly well-compensated for it. And yet - somehow - miraculously - I think nobody deserves to die because they can't afford health insurance.

Find a bipartisan solution. Stop these kneejerk repeal-and-replace quarter-measures. Do your jobs.

Sincerely,

Laura Jacqmin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Wampler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the ACA - please restore Senate order

Dear Senate,

Please embrace bipartisan effort of working within committee and returning to regular Senate order.

Millions of Americans are counting on the Senate to embrace this work and continue to improve the ACA and focus on market stabilization.

The ACA is a program to be administered--collaborating with governors, Republicans, Democrats--not just a headline in a campaign.

Please return to regular order and bipartisan work vs attempts to advance proposals such as the previous BCRA and the current Graham/Cassidy Bill which roll back protections. Please vote no. Work for something better--please!

Jennifer Wampler
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anthony Martini <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

To the Senate Finance Committee -

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family has pre-existing conditions, we have elderly relatives who need affordable healthcare, and the list goes on. This is why we would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, **not repeal it.**

Sincerely,

Anthony Martini
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Hart [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

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

As a social worker in the Kansas City area, I see so many hardworking families with children who absolutely depend on the ACA for healthcare. Access to healthcare has SO many important outcomes--not just for the family, but state and federal money saved in future health care, mental health care, prison and education costs.

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

Sincerely,

Katie Hart, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thayer Reed <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Today: Please do not repeat APA

Dear Senators -

Please do not pass any measure that overturns or substantially cuts the ACA.

I rely on the ACA for my health insurance coverage; and I could not afford to have coverage without the tax credit.

I am a 'success story' of the ACA. Because I could get insurance, last year I was able to set up my own consulting business. The tax credit allowed me to not fret about the start up costs. And now, I am up and running but can still have good health care. And I was able to relocate from IL to WI in order to be closer to my aging parents.

I implore you to keep the ACA. Please do not consider the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My thanks,
Thayer Reed

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Ostrow [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote NO on the Graham/Cassidy Bill

To Whom it May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, and disabilities is that I have a son, Dan, who has Tuberous Sclerosis Complex, and who suffers from numerous medical assaults on his sweet body and mind. Among other issues, Dan has had brain surgery to lessen the 30-40 seizures he once had, kidney surgery to remove a renal cell carcinoma from his kidney, is on the autism spectrum, and has an intellectual disability as well. That being said, he has a great life, and is a very happy 25 year old. He has a job shredding documents for four hours a week, engages with friends and the community through a Medicaid-funded program, and has insurance through my husband's job and Medicaid. Were his Medicaid coverage to be affected (even assuming he remains on our family's insurance), we would be saddled with over \$15,000.00/month seizure medication bill (which would break us). Additionally, he would be deprived of all the opportunities he has had to live as "normal" a life as possible. Our son is not alone. There are millions of other families who would be decimated by the proposed changes. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ostrow



Virus-free. [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Ambrose <da[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 50 personal health care stories of Americans who are afraid of losing coverage

Dear Senate Committee,

Here are 50 personal health care stories of Americans who are afraid of losing coverage. The government has a responsibility to guarantee health care for the people of the country. Efforts to repeal the ACA and gut medicare will adversely effect millions of Americans. Here are the stories of American's who are at risk of losing their coverage because of the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. They want a better system and you are taking away their chance to work for one by eliminating single payer on the state level. Here are their personal stories.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TejT68nWoEM>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue and Lee [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I oppose the proposed Graham-Cassidy legislation. At a personal level I am concerned about continued Medicaid funding for a disabled daughter-in-law. At a more general level I oppose the bill because I believe Congress should strengthen the ACA rather than repeal it. Sincerely, Suzanne Levin, Princeton, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mercedes Rosa [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill #VOTENO

Hello this is Mercedes Rosa and I am a resident of Old Bridge, NJ and I have two children with special health care needs. The Senate is considering a bill, the Graham Cassidy bill, that proposes devoting cuts to medicaid and removed protections for persons with pre-existing conditions. 11 million people with disabilities rely on Medicaid for critical services that help them live and participate in the community. I am asking Senators Cory Booker, Senator Menendez and all Republicans not to be short sighted on the issue and stand up and do what is right and oppose this disastrous bill that will greatly harm families and children.

Thank you!

Mercedes Rosa
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Doreena Wong <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Senate Hearing Comments
Attachments: Graham-Cassidy Senate Hearing.AAAJ-LA comments..9-25-2017.final.pdf

Dear Senators Hatch and Wyden and Senate Staff,

Please find attached public comments to the Senate Finance Committee hearing on the Graham-Cassidy proposal. Thank you for your assistance.

--

Doreena Wong

P [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

T: (213) [REDACTED]

F: (213) [REDACTED]

advancingjustice-la.org

*Building upon the legacy of the
Asian Pacific American Legal Center*

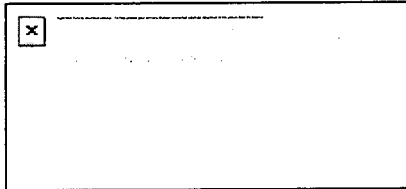
Wright, Kevin (Finance)


From: Christy Gamble <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the Record for Hearing on Graham-Cassidy Proposal
Attachments: BWHI Graham-Cassidy Bill_Senate Finance Letter.pdf

Please find the statement from Black Women's Health Imperative to submit for the record for today's hearing on the Graham-Cassidy Proposal.

Best,

--
Christy M. Gamble, [REDACTED]
Director, Health Policy [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



 bwhi.org | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Read our blog](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kira Olson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family and friends relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with medicaid, coverage caps, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability is... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Kira Olson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacy Bergener <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy bill

Last year I had a very serious illness and therefore have a preexisting condition - that would put me in a very precarious financial position with the current Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill as I am a senior on a fixed income. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and would like to see a bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it

Sincerely,
Stacy Bergener
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: lauren [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham Cassidy, I support the ACA

To Whom It May Concern,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My mother has diabetes, I am starting a family and will need maternity care, my sister relies on mental health services, my best friends' children have Cystic Fibrosis, my elderly lower income patients depend on Medicaid. Nearly everyone in my life would be hurt in some way by this bill. I would like to see due process for this bill and bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please do your hallowed duty as elected officials to protect your constituents, not hurt them.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely, Lauren Vella

Middletown, DE

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Lois Johnson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

while providing them with free yearly physicals and encouragement by their doctor to make healthy lifestyle choices.

The other HUGE problem is the number of babies born in DE to mother's addicted to drugs. This problem is not only extremely expensive, but has long term negative effects on the state. The NAS babies require long-term medical care, many end up in the foster system, and many will have learning difficulties throughout their lives. Worst of all, many of these drug addicted mothers go right back out and get pregnant again. Again, there is NO incentive for them not to. Tax payers are enabling their drug additions and enabling them to bring babies into the world they have no ability to realistically take care of. I cannot even fathom how much money this costs our state. I would recommend giving them an option – jail (to prevent more pregnancies) or long term contraception until they are able to obtain treatment and remain drug free. My family has dealt with addiction personally and I understand it's an illness, but no one should be allowed or supported to continue to bring babies into this world under those conditions.

END government abuse, make health care affordable for ALL people (and not by raising taxes on the working class to pay for it), and once and for all - hold people accountable (this alone will enable health care to be more affordable for everyone, including those with pre-existing conditions). I want to choose my own insurance benefits and have the affordable policy I had and was told I could keep before Obamacare.

I have written to my state senators and they showed NO understanding or even willingness to listen to my concerns. They obviously have some personal or political agenda, and do not care about the issues facing their constituents.

I appreciate you listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,

Kim Wagner

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 1
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: K Wagner [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PASS Graham-Cassiday bill please

To whom it may concern:

PLEASE pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am deeply disturbed by the ever increasing costs of mandated health insurance. I am urging you to fight for Delawareans to have more options for health insurance in order to meet **individual needs and not the same mandated policy for all.** I am a healthy, self-employed single mother, and the ACA had a very negative effect on my family life. I take personal responsibility to eat right and exercise in order to keep my costs down. I want to **CHOOSE the benefits I want and need,** like I do with car insurance, and **not be forced to have a plan** with mental health and substance abuse services, maternity care, or pediatric vision and dental services. I am a 53-year old woman and do not want to pay for maternity care or pediatric services I do not use and already paid for when I had young children.

In 2013, my insurance was \$200/month for a decent policy with livable deductibles. Just 5 years later, it has **skyrocketed** to over \$800.00 per month and it's a terrible policy with a \$6800.00 deductible that I can never even use. I was told prior to Obamacare passing, along with many Americans, "if you are happy with your current policy, you can keep it". That statement turned out to be a lie, and due to the poor decisions made by Delaware lawmakers, everyone in this state was forced to join an Obamacare policy. **I am furious.** I no longer go to the doctor because it is simply **unaffordable for me.** I would not take subsidies even if I qualified because I do not believe in someone else paying more for insurance so I can pay less. However, I still have the same bills I had prior to this mess, have a daughter in college I am paying for as well, and **even sold my home,** moving into a much smaller home to avoid financial crisis this AFC has brought upon me. **PLEASE help.** I've work so hard my entire life to get to where I am and am so frustrated by the crippling effect these laws have had on myself and my children. I shouldn't be penalized for being a hard working single mother who has never take a dime of government assistance. **Self-employed people are being crippled by the cost of healthcare** and no one seems to care yet those who abuse the system have no repercussions.

Insurance companies SHOULD ABSOLUTELY be able to charge more for people with pre-existing conditions but not be able to cancel their policies. People should be held accountable for lifestyle choices that lead to poor health and those working hard to stay healthy should not be penalized and have to pay more for insurance in order to cover everyone else. What ever happened to the old saying "you get what you pay for"?

I know the has budget **significantly increased** this year due to the costs of **Medicaid, a program that is severely abused and not efficient.** Federal Medicaid payments to states SHOULD be cut significantly and hold EVERYONE accountable for their own health. Why not have Medicaid clients pay a co-pay to help contribute to the budget? Trust me, I see them frequently in my line of work and they can afford a \$10.00 co-pay as easily as they afford their pack of cigarettes, manicures, cell phones, and/or heroin addictions. There is no incentive for people to get healthy on Medicaid, or even show up for their appointments because they can't be charged a no show fee like everyone else. Many of them smoke, lack exercise, and lead an unhealthy lifestyle, all with zero incentive to ever get off of public assistance, especially when they realize how expensive health care is for the working class. **Something must be done to give everyone an incentive to stay healthy, especially those who get health care for free.** The ONLY thing that will do that is charging them something for the cost of their care,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia M. Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

My severely developmentally disabled son (lead poisoning as a baby) must have his Medicaid Waiver-funded program.

My Medicare is essential to maintaining my medical conditions. I cannot afford higher costs. In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

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

Patricia M. Williams
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

rights for survival. Each of you clamor, and lie, and prey upon each of us under the guise of public interest. Falsely professing that it is for our benefit.

I am predisposed to having any of the cancers my mother miraculously survived. There are several genetic conditions I have already inherited. I've never been foolish about my mortality, unlike the many youngsters you try and appeal to. I'm not misled by your deceptions that my right to life, would or should come at the expense of someone else's. How? Their pocketbook? Mine's open and I have a lot less than any of you in Congress. I'm willing (with what little I have) to still give to the community, so that they too have a fair chance at getting healthcare. As hard, and as wretchedly as you try to hold onto "what's yours", it's too late. You've seen the outrage of the majority of Americans. We're not willing to give up what's ours now; and that's the right to healthcare. All of this Republican grandiloquence about the need for bipartisanship, was simply a dalliance until you could muster up another go at strong-arming your real intentions through government. You would steal the lives of millions of people.

If the GOP forces this through, or lets the ACA implode, you will own every single thing about it. You already do. It will not go unanswered come election time. Your party will eventually lose its majority again. You cannot hide your names from history. Especially not in this day and age. Your "legacies" are already solidified, and much like the statues of the confederacy, they will be stripped down and remembered amongst the failures of this country's history. We will not forget that this is completely and utterly the Republicans (the Reprehensibles) stance on the welfare of their constituents and the American people. After all, the GOP is the quintessential paradigm of its position on healthcare; in as much as when it comes to Republican capitalist driven legislation, it (like the GOP) has no conscience.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomasina Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal (Statement for the Record)
Attachments: Graham Cassidy Proposal Public Statement for the Record.docx

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal](#)

Scheduled: Monday, September 25, 2017

My name is Thomasina Jones. I'm a 33 year old female, and registered Independent voter from the state of Delaware. I'm writing to voice my objection to the GOP's newest "attempt" at repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act. It is no secret that the Republicans have railed against the ACA from its very inception. I've heard nothing, but smear campaigns against it for 8 years now. As of 2017, it has been confirmed that in all that time, not a single Republican had endeavored to prepare a replacement. Why? Because the GOP never intended to bring about something new, or better. You simply wanted to revert back to business as usual. Your entire platform would be laughable if it wasn't so disgustingly dangerous.

We've witnessed for weeks the perpetual fumbling of party members, who hold both majorities and the White House. The only thing worse than the incompetence of these politicians tripping over themselves, is the legislation they see fit to pass. Legislation that the majority of Americans DO NOT WANT! All those years of complaining, or in the GOP's case: campaigning, on the platform of how Democrats forced the ACA onto the United States. So, how exactly would Republicans characterize what they, themselves are doing now? Healthcare is not about political parties or agendas. I'm an Independent because I'm fed up with both parties using the American public as leverage, or collateral in what can only be described as a Craps game amongst the key proprietors of this country's aristocracy. The public is just a means to funnel currency into an ever growing pot. Gambling with people's lives, devoid of any care for our rights and well being, while acting as both the House and players.

Let me inform you as to why I stand against this most recent monstrosity, and why I will forever support the precedent set by the ACA. Besides the obvious wrecking ball that is Republican politics in 2017, I remember what it was like before "Obamacare". My father, a veteran, had a small retirement pension and social security. My mother, a college graduate, worked hard every day of her life. Regardless, we were considered a low income family. I, myself, chose to begin working at age 15. Between the years 2002-2004, my mother was diagnosed with three (3) separate cancers. Year after year, she was informed that she had thyroid cancer, then breast cancer, then malignant melanoma (skin cancer). I was 17 years old the first time she was diagnosed.

Now just experiencing such an illness, is indescribable. I watched the pillar of a woman that is my mother, reduced not only by its physical ailments, but assailed with both emotional and psychological breakdowns. The terror of not knowing what was going to happen to her; the effects it was having on her loved ones. No sooner was she in "remission" from one cancer it was then discovered that she had a completely different one to contend with. It takes away your dignity and your strength when faced with such uncertainty.

My father, being a senior citizen, had what passed for medical. My mother only had the insurance her job, at the time, afforded her. She was forced to continue working throughout all of her cancers. She'd go to work sick to both maintain her medical and continue to provide for our home. She had to daily pray for mercy that her employer wouldn't fire her; due to the constant need for flexibility in her work schedule. Flexibility that was necessary in order for her to be available for doctor's appointments, surgeries, and treatments. She had to work, to even have a chance to survive. She would not have been given medical anywhere else! She now had a "pre-existing condition". Her medical, didn't even cover her full expenses. Our credit cards got maxed. She was denied loans because of her "pre-existing conditions". At age 18, I had saved \$6,000 from part time jobs I had worked. I forced my mother, holding her hand as she cried, to take it towards her medical bills. Hardworking families should not have to be forced to choose between being evicted, starving, and/or going into debt because they are afflicted by diseases that DO NOT DISCRIMINATE!

The ACA set an official precedent, for the first time in this country, that insurance companies (actual "death panels") should not have the right to decide (and profit from) who lives or dies. With no bipartisan support, through seeds of public dissention deliberately planted by the Republican Party, and with opposition by those same insurance companies, the ACA got off to a rough start. It needs improvement. What is being proposed here, and has been this entire time by Republicans, is a despicable call to a return of what was. I would even hazard to go further by saying; worse than what was. You want so desperately to hold onto what's "yours". You exploit certain groups of constituents who are persuaded to feel the same. Who believe that communal responsibilities somehow impede upon one's sensibilities of self interest and preservation. It does not! All the while (before the ACA up through to the present) it has proven to be you who have been infringing upon our

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dave McGurgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham-Cassidy

I am a small business owner who relies on the affordable care act to get their health insurance. I want legislators to work in bipartisan manner to stabilize the marketplace and fix the parts of ACA that need improvement.

Dave McGurgan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Derr [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to #GrahamCassidy

Monday 1pm the Senate Finance committee will have a hearing on #GrahamCassidy. THE GOP "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.

Sandra Derr
[REDACTED]

We want health care, not health insurance. We want to be able to visit a doctor when we feel sick, not when we feel wealthy. It is the government's job to keep its citizens alive and healthy; required health care and procedures should not be the burden of the people; this isn't the Middle Ages. It's 2017; we have the greatest technology in the history of our people; we have computers that can almost think for themselves; we have medicine that earlier generations couldn't even dream of. The rich don't need to get richer; instead, the sick need to get healthier. Do your jobs; stand up for all of us.

Douglas Danger Manley

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Doug Manley [REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy and American healthcare

As you have requested comments from the public, I shall provide some. This entire process of attempting to repeal the Affordable Healthcare Act by the Republican party is a disgrace to the American people, the natural result of that party's irrational animosity toward Barack Obama and an 8-year campaign centered on antagonizing him and everything that was accomplished during his tenure as president. I'll believe the excuses, the "rationale" against large government when the Republican party votes to downsize the military and "defense" spending (an *enormous* amount of bureaucracy and money) and when they terminate the Authorization of Military Force after the attacks on September 11, 2001, and return the government to its constitutionally assigned roles in which Congress declares war, formally and with oversight into the process.

In any case, the current attempts to railroad a "repeal and replace" bill serve, at best, to merely check the box that Republicans campaigned on: repealing "Obamacare", a term that was invented to rile up the anti-Obama Republican base against something that was in their own best interests. At worst, it is an open declaration of disdain and apathy for the American people. Not all Americans are white, wealthy, with millions of dollars in investments and property. In fact, most are poor and can barely survive. This nation, currently alone in the Western world of developed nations, treats health care like it is a non-essential service that is not owed to anyone. Even our terms reflect this: "insurance". Insurance is for property, like cars and houses, or as a guarantee against unforeseen events. With our health, there are no "unforeseen" events; it's all obvious and probable: car crashes leading to broken bones, sports injuries, auto-immune disorders, cancer, disability. All of these are obviously potential problems for all of us. All of us will, at some point in our lives, have health issues. And if we should all survive into old age, then we are certain to experience them as our bodies fail us. Insurance is thinking that something won't happen, but playing it safe just in case (life insurance, car insurance; things that are not necessarily your fault). Health "insurance"? Come on, we're all going to have problems. In fact, we are encouraged to go to doctors for routine screenings and procedures more and more in order to detect illnesses before they become a real problem.

No one wants insurance; we all want *care*. We want exercise our "unalienable rights" to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Of that, "life" is key here. We must be alive and healthy, and it is the job of the United States government to guarantee that right. People shouldn't go bankrupt because they get sick, break a bone, or happen to be dealt a cruel hand with some kind of genetic disorder. Health care is 1/6 of the United States' economy. We should be working with health care professionals to provide the best health care to all Americans, more frequently and more easily.

One sixth the economy. One sixth. That's a huge amount, and to think that you would dare to try to railroad an ill-conceived repeal, outside of regular order, with no public debate, using the parliamentary claim of a budget change? Vile and disgusting.

The American people want to be healthy. They don't want to lose their life's savings on an injury or the illness of a loved one. The Affordable Care Act maintains our country's sick view of health care; it was derived from a conservative, Republican-leaning plan. It was intended to be a compromise, something that both parties could get behind. Instead, the Republicans have been forced to go further to the right, alienating all those Americans who struggle with their bills because they "campaigned on it". Too bad. Lose your stupid House and Senate seats. You don't deserve them. The American people deserve better.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Silverman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Upcoming Lindsay-Graham healthcare bill

To whom it may concern:

As a citizen of this country, a mother, and a person with family members with ore-existing conditions, I urge you to vote against this bill at the SFC meeting on Monday. This bill will cause extreme economic hardship for millions of people in our country who don't have access to good employer sponsored healthcare. In addition, it will significantly drive up premiums for those of us who do have decent healthcare. I already pay a large monthly premium and am trying to put two children through college.

I would also like to tell those members of Congress that should this legislation pass, we will not forget who is responsible. We will vote with our hearts on this very important issue at your next election.

Yours sincerely,

Debra Silverman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 03

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beverly [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

This is a terrible bill that the majority of Americans do not want passed. Your approval, especially without a CBO score, would be destructive and foolhardy. Please be thoughtful of the chaos and harm you would do to the COUNTRY and its citizens. We the people deserve your loyalty not DJT. Thank you.

Beverly Cox
Delaware

The state block grant actually decreases funding for healthcare and provides unequal distribution of funds to the states.

The program would eliminate both the employer and the individual mandates. Support of healthcare is a corporate and social responsibility and ensures funding for the program.

The bill cuts Medicaid even further, when we should be enhancing it for an aging state.

Millions will be left uninsured; many people will suffer and die. Those that are lucky may have a hospital cover their expenses but only selectively.

Consider how history will judge you against the morals you state you uphold. Thank you for your time and please reconsidering enhancing the ACA not destroying it.

Sincerely,

Stephen Tedeschi

Attached is the letter copied into the email-

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve Tedeschi [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham and Cassidy Health Care Bill
Attachments: Graham Cassidy Healthcare.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Stephen Tedeschi
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

21 September 2017

The Senate Committee on Finance
Attn: Editorial and Document Section
Room SD 219
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Senators Graham and Cassidy,

My name is Stephen Tedeschi and I reside at 21 Raphael Road in Hockessin, Delaware 19707. I am a constituent of the first state of Delaware and know that my Senators are voting no on the upcoming health care bill crafted under your names.

I am writing to you and ask that you change your minds and do what is morally responsible and enhance the ACA rather than place in a program that is deficient in promoting healthcare for the American people.

While, insurers could not refuse to cover someone because of a preexisting condition, they would be able to make coverage so exorbitantly expensive that sick people couldn't afford it.

States could theoretically choose to keep all of the current protections for people with preexisting conditions, but they may also choose that they could not afford such supplements. They must also replicate programs which is inefficient and the purpose of the Federal Government

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Humes [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health care bill

Vote NO to the Graham - Cassidy health care bill. It was drawn up in a back room secretive way. Who knows for sure what is really in this bill? What I do know is that there will be federal fewer dollars put into health care, no guarantee that people with predicting conditions will be covered, actually not many guarantees of any kind. People with mental health problems and the disease of addiction will especially be impacted. Health care is a complicated issue - both Republicans and Democrats need to work together to find a way to fix the problems of the Affordable Care Act. Graham- Cassidy is not the solution.

Gail Humes
Wilmington, DE

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tony DeLeonardis [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Tony DeLeonardis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Tymkiw [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Liz Tymkiw

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Doto [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

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

Isn't it about time the Republicans and the Democrats learn to work together and work for everyone?

Sincerely,

Barbara and Joe Doto

Newark, Delaware

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bunkymark <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do Not Repeal ACA

Do the right thing for the American people, you were elected to serve all of your constituents. This is a bad bill, worse than all the others previously proposed. Do the hard work with you counterparts and draft legislation that is fair to all. This is not it. VOTE NO. Or we will elect people who will.

Francis Markert Jr.
Katherine Markert
Rehoboth Beach Delaware 19971

Sent from my Verizon. Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan Mahle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham Cassidy proposal to "repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act. There are many reasons for my opposition, but the primary one is that I care for my fellow Americans and I wish for them to have access to healthcare. As the G-C bill stands, it will greatly impact the ability of those most vulnerable among us, children, people with disabilities, the elderly, to get the healthcare they need. Block grants for Medicaid will not insure that people are insured, but will raise the number of uninsured.

Please vote NO on this bill.

Megan Mahle
DE
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beverly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

This is a terrible bill that the majority of Americans do not want passed. Your approval, especially without a CBO score, would be destructive and foolhardy. Please be thoughtful of the chaos and harm you would do to the COUNTRY and its citizens. We the people deserve your loyalty not DJT. Thank you.

Beverly Cox
Delaware

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Callahan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: do not repeal the ACA

I am very concerned about the plan to repeal the ACA as it would leave millions of people without healthcare coverage and would gut Medicaid. States that do not have the financial security to offer premium coverage would not be able to offer basic coverage such as Maternity Care and those with pre-existing conditions would likely be charged more for a policy. Seniors in need of nursing home care would be out in the cold. Yes you say the states will have more power to decide what and who should be covered. but I find your reasoning to be very concerning. Delaware, where I live already is dealing with a large deficit and has had to cut many programs that were beneficial to our most vulnerable citizens. Obamacare is not perfect, but I am pleading with you to talk to each other, listen to people who have ideas and plans for fixing our healthcare rather than repealing and replacing. Thank You

Sincerely,
Pam Callahan

Newark, Delaware

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy bill

This bill should NOT be passed. It will be disastrous for the American people. Those who vote 'Yes' for this bill do so not for the good of the people of the US... but rather for the good of their own pocketbooks or their re-election funds.

Thank you
Janet Orlando
Lewes, DE

Peace,
Janet

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilyn McNeill [REDACTED] m>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:58 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. Marilyn McNeill
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Our testimony for Graham-Cassidy bill

Greetings,

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

My daughter has Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy which requires medication and therapy that must be affordable and covered for her lifetime.

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

Sincerely, Sallie Reissman

Wilmington, Delaware

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ent
[REDACTED] nage of Omnia
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Hardesty [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. As a teacher, I also see many young people who rely on the healthcare exchanges and/or Medicaid for their health and well-being. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Any bill that will result in less affordable insurance coverage long-term is a step backwards, and threatens the health of the most vulnerable among us. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Katie Oliver

Wilmington, DE

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle Mayer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 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 it doesn't make fiscal sense. Why not repair the system we have rather than rip it to shreds? Given the new proposal, individuals will now be uninsured and hospitals will absorb the costs of caring for patients with ailments that may have been avoided if they had had preventive care. Fix what we have. My husband is a physician who wastes precious time fighting with insurance companies for coverage for his patients. He has patients who are only able to see him because of Obamacare. He is a cancer specialist. Half of his office staff are devoted to dealing with insurance companies. What a waste! I realize that it is unrealistic to expect Congress to approve Medicare for everyone, but it is a noble aspiration. Perhaps we should be a more caring and equitable society. It seems to work in most first world countries. Why is quality healthcare only limited to the well off in this country? It really saddens me.

Michelle Mayer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: B PriceMartin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

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

My story is that I could never afford what will come if you repeal the ACA. We must improve health care but what is proposed is NOT an improvement. Repealing the ACA is a travesty. My husband and I are close to retirement and will never have the money needed with this proposed repeal.

We need a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Barbara Price-Martin

Wilmington, Delaware

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ellen freed [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comments Graham Cassidy Bill

To Whom it May Concern:

Americans depend upon quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have been healthy my entire life, but in the last couple of years, I would not have been able to take care of myself and keep my house without it. I watch so many elderly people save money their entire lives only to have to spend it all at the end of their lives on healthcare. This is an insane redistribution. How many people who work only do it for healthcare, and take on second jobs to pay the rest. This does not make sense, people with this much energy could be educating themselves or contributing to society in better ways than being a full time fast food worker. This bill will change nothing any of these people, for our future works, or people with pre-existing conditions

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

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Fifer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Nancy Fifer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CherylWerner [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass the Graham/Cassidy Bill

A family member and a good friend rely on the ACA to provide their healthcare insurance. They had previously been unable to get medical insurance because of pre-existing conditions. Because of this reality, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which provides no assurances that they will continue to have the guarantees they now enjoy. Governors, insurance companies, AARP, the AMA, and many other reputable groups oppose this unvetted bill. And, there is no CBO analysis yet! No hearings, etc. No "regular order."

Dumping the problem onto the states in block grants is no answer and you know it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

I am losing all faith in Congress' ability to govern. Man up! Do the right thing for Americans, not your wealthy donors!!

Cheryl Werner, Newark, DE

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC Healthcare

Good Evening,

My husband worked for over 32 years. During those years he was hardly ever sick. He was an athlete and monitored his health. Yet, every paycheck for over 32 years, he paid for his healthcare, although rarely using it.

Two years ago, my husband did get sick and he did need to use his healthcare. He was diagnosed with two incurable diseases! He required dialysis and a stem cell transplant. We were greatly relieved to learn that his healthcare plan would cover most of the costs of these lifesaving procedures. He plans to continue to contribute to his healthcare plan. However, his contribution has to be a premium that considers accessibility and affordability.

The Graham/Cassidy bill appears to not honor the over 32 years of payments into a healthcare system. If this bill is passed, my husband's healthcare premiums could become exorbitant, placing it out of reach. The Graham/Cassidy bill provides no guarantees for affordable coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions. My husband who worked for over 3 decades paying into a healthcare system will have to pay much more, possibly with his life, for the healthcare he needs under this bill as caps could be placed on the amount allotted for his care. Placing caps on coverage costs and accelerating premiums for individuals with preexisting conditions are inhumane, unfair and inequitable. Affordable healthcare is not a privilege, but a right. Please fight for the right for affordable healthcare for all.

Thank you for your time,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy and People with Disabilities

Dear Senators:

I am a visually-impaired person, and I rely on Medicaid. So do other people with a disability.

But the Graham-Cassidy bill would affect states' ability to help us get healthcare.

My vision went bad when I started editing curricula for an online school. I'm extremely farsighted, which makes my near vision weak. I also have strabismus in my right eye, which makes that weaker. But I got by with glasses and contacts...until I got older, and my focal muscles couldn't work like they used too.

Within three days of starting the job, which relied on my near vision, my sight blurred. So I got magnifiers and readers, and they helped for a few days. Then I'd need stronger magnifiers and readers. Then my eyes hurt all the time, my vision got worse and worse, and my right eye turned toward my nose. I had to stop working after three months--when I finally got in to see a doctor at Johns Hopkins. He said my prescription was three diopters off--I had a plus 6.0 and 4.5, but needed a plus 9.0 and a 6.5. And because of the wrong prescription, my eyes getting worse, and time I'd spent trying to see with readers, my focal muscles were damaged.

I could see far out with contacts, but I couldn't use a computer or read a book. And I would never be able to.

Suddenly, I couldn't work. I couldn't watch TV. I couldn't read or write.

And I couldn't pay for Cobra or any healthcare. Not once my savings ran out.

I have multiple degrees and want to work again, but the state doesn't have much money to get me assistance. They can't foot the bill for everyone's Medicaid either.

People with disabilities rely on Medicaid for the services that enable them to live and participate in the community;

- o People with disabilities rely on Medicaid for the services that enable them to live and participate in the community;
- o Allowing states to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions is allowing states to waive protections for *everyone with a disability*;

Please don't vote for Graham-Cassidy. Vote for the Americans who need your help.

Thank you,
Stacy Couch

Stacy Couch
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: RICHENDA DAVISON [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare and I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a senior living on a fixed income with no room for unexpected increases in my medical care, medicare premiums or support for my on-going medical needs. We need bipartisan work to come up with improvements to the Affordable Care Act. We do not need to repeal it.

Sincerely,

Richenda Davison

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

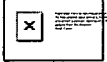
Wright, Kevin (Finance)


From: Rachel West [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I was diagnosed with epilepsy 11 years ago and was denied coverage before the Affordable Care Act protected those with preexisting conditions, which was financially ruinous. While I know the ACA isn't perfect, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve** the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Rachel West
Wilmington, Delaware

Currently Reading



 et your own email signature

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linnea Goddess [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Insurance

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My 11 year old son died of liver cancer at age 11 several years ago. Any parent can understand how that brought me and my husband to our knees in just being able to survive losing him. If we hadn't had adequate insurance to cover much of the costs of his treatment (although we probably spent about \$100,000 out of pocket anyway), I'm not sure we would have been able to go on and finish raising our older son.

In my mind it is imperative that there be a Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The Graham-Cassidy bill would leave other parents facing what we faced devastated.

Linnea Goddess

Wilmington, Delaware

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael D Johnson, Ph.D. [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject this newest version of Trumpcare for at least one reason: the attempt to give individual states their "rights" to mandate and distribute monies will not only deny many worthy citizens needed health care, but also deny citizens such as myself, potential medical care in states such as KS, where I reside. In this state, Medicaid ("KanCare") is denied to unmarried, single males who have no dependents, i.e., who have not fornicated for the state's benefit.

Michael D Johnson, Ph.d.

[REDACTED]@com

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: james simmons [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

james simmons
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Seth Cramer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Seth Cramer
sacramer@gmail.com

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Voth [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Please make sure this committee reviews the entire proposal and make sure the whole Senate has time to review this proposal. It is impossible to define the damage this will cause to low and middle income people who currently have health care. It also removes the possibility of those without healthcare now to have health care. Do not vote on this bill until complete review is complete. If that takes 3 - 6 months, that is ok. I oppose this bill because it is detrimental to people and the institutions that serve them.

Janet Voth
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ken kerle <ken.kerle@senate.gov>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

ken kerle

[Redacted signature block]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beau Ryba [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Beau Ryba

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: George Kinnard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My opposition to Graham-Cassidy

I am the father of a 24 year-old son with autism and epilepsy. My son is HCBS Medicaid eligible and will need that benefit the remainder of his life. As a SHIP counselor and aging professional, I'm someone who has worked with Kansas Medicaid beneficiaries for the past twenty years. Professionally and personally I know the value of the Medicaid program and I'll fight to keep it from being dismantled and/or diminished. The Graham-Cassidy bill is simply one more thrown-together-at-a-moment's-notice-behind-closed-doors attempt to appease the Republican base, punish Americans with low incomes, and dismantle the Medicaid program. Passing it will cause irreparable harm to low-income and disabled Kansans – like my son. Please oppose it!

George L. Kinnard, Jr.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nicole Crump <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Nicole Crump
5130 Hardy St
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phil St. Romain <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Feedback on bill

Dear Senators,

I urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, as it is being rushed through, without proper consultation or CBO feedback. As an interested citizen and senior whose wife still has to purchase insurance, I am very concerned about healthcare costs and cannot see where this will help in any way, nor how it is an improvement over Obamacare.

Oppose!

Philip St. Romain

4101 N [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Be here now in love, and all shall be well
<http://shalomplace.com>

See also:
<http://youtube.com/philstromain>
<http://philstromain.com>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Yeager <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Dear Senators

The Graham Cassidy Health Care bill should be defeated. Why can't we work together-Democrats and Republicans- to correct the problems with our system while ensuring health care for Americans. Let's work together to protect and give Americans the best. Most major industrialized countries have found a way to provide health care to their citizens. Why can't we?

The Graham Cassidy does not protect Americans who have pre-existing conditions. It allows insurance companies to raise rates so insurance for these people will become unaffordable.

As an elderly American I fear my rates will become unaffordable. Protections in the ACA to keep rates for older Americans under control will be repealed if this bill passes. Please don't do this.

Why do the Republicans insist on cramming a bill down our throats without reaching out to all Americans and developing quality legislation by working with all sides. A start was made in this direction but it has been shutdown. Why????

Please follow Senator McCain's advice and get back to regular order. Develop a good health care system for all Americans not just the wealthy.

Thank you
Karen Yeager
Overland Park, Kansas

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matney Darla <Darla.Matney@HCAmidwest.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am writing to offer my opinion about the proposed bill. As a Trauma hospital Social Worker for 20 years, I have seen hundreds and hundreds of accident victims with traumatic brain injuries, loss of limbs, burns, etc. The worst of the worst things that can happen to an individual through no fault of their own. This bill will greatly impact these people who may need assistance for the remainder of their lives. Please consider this when voting on the bill. It is a disgrace to the greatest nation in the world to treat our most vulnerable citizens in such a manner.



Darla Matney, LMSW
Critical Care Social Worker
Overland Park Regional Medical Center
10500 Quivira Road
Overland Park, KS 66215
Darla.matney@hcamidwest.com
(913) 541.5603 p (913) 541.5577 f
www.oprhc.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Robeson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

My son, Danny, is five years old and just started kindergarten. This is a tremendous rite of passage for all kids, but it is especially poignant for us. There was a time after Danny was born that we were not sure he would make it to kindergarten. Danny was born prematurely and is diagnosed with cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and cortical vision impairment. Danny uses a wheelchair, he needs total support with all his care, uses a gtube for his nutrition and fluids, and he requires constant monitoring of his health due to the risk of seizures. Due to Danny's disabilities, he qualifies for Medicaid through Kansas' Medicaid Technology Assistance (TA) Waiver.

Sending your baby off to kindergarten is tough for all parents, but I may have the market cornered on most anxious new kindergarten mom. Danny requires a significant amount of help. Danny requires physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. He needs adaptive equipment in the classroom, on the playground, and specialized transportation. He needs a fulltime paraprofessional assisting him, comprehensive nursing, and assistive technology. Danny does need a lot, but it is his right to receive an education just like anybody. Equal doesn't mean the same. Equal means you get what you need.

Because the federal government has never fully funded special education in our schools, about thirty years ago, schools were permitted to bill Medicaid for the therapies and services they provide. For example, our local school district billed Medicaid \$1.2 million dollars last year. What would our schools do without this money?

There is no way to adequately express what it is like to have a child who is medically fragile. Despite it all, I never wish away my son's disability. I accept that disability is a part of the human condition, that he is exactly who he was meant to be, and his life is not a tragedy. The tragedy is living in a society that does not value my son's life. The tragedy would be if his necessary services were taken away. As a parent, your entire life is in the service of your children. Without Medicaid, I simply could not provide for my son. I could not work hard enough, earn enough, or luck into enough resources to independently provide what my son needs to live and to be healthy.

There is nothing more critical to meeting the needs of my son and millions of others with disabilities than Medicaid. We need our Congress to recognize this. We need our Congress to protect our health care.

Respectfully,
Laura Robeson

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Limbird [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 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

To whom it may concern -

I am deeply troubled by the procedure used to develop the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. As an engineer for a consulting firm that routinely executes the design and construction of projects ranging up to a billion dollars in total installed cost, I am intimately familiar with the due diligence required to minimize risk in such an undertaking.

Nothing in the development of this bill which is going to affect over a trillion dollars in appropriations and millions of Americans' ability to get affordable and adequate healthcare appears to meet the standards of our company, let alone the standards of the US government.

To my understanding -

- There will not be a complete CBO score of the bill.
- There will be no significant debate of the bill on the Senate floor.
- There will be no amendments offered/voted on for the bill.

This is a dereliction of the Senate's responsibility to their constituents. To put it in business terms, no board of directors would rush a vote of this magnitude with the lack of due diligence shown. It is a disgrace to the Senate to attempt such a thing.

I implore the Senate to return to regular order in their effort to modify healthcare.

Thank you.

Chris Limbird
Prairie Village, KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Russ Simmons <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not approve Graham-Cassidy

There are too many problems with this bill and not enough time to thoroughly scrutinize its impact.
Thank you.
Russ Simmons

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Walker [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care-NO! NO! NO!

I am a constituent of Topeka, KS, and I am emphatically AGAINST this abysmal excuse for a health care bill. This piece of legislation is a death warrant for millions of Americans. And, unlike Senator Grassley's position, I do NOT believe that you pass an awful bill just to pass something.

I am strongly opposed to ANY legislator who votes for Graham-Cassidy, and will loudly and determinedly campaign against them all.

Get back to representing the people who pay your salary instead of the billionaires who line your pockets of avarice. Bring Universal Healthcare-Medicare for ALL to the table, and REVERSE the decades old legislation that made healthcare a for-profit industry.

--
Anna Walker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Cinelli [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I hate Graham Cassidy

I do not believe for one second that the state of Kansas won't back down and allow insurance companies in my state to charge my step-son exorbitant insurance rates because he suffers from type 1 diabetes. Please don't do this to him and the millions of others who suffer from chronic illness due to no fault of their own. It isn't the Christian thing to do!

--

Janet Cinelli

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacy Shanahan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: a constituents concern

Dear Finance Committee members,

I am reaching out to you today to express my concern with the Graham-Cassidy bill. Please realize that this bill would very well have a negative impact on many Americans.

Pre-existing conditions could be a health care nightmare if this bill is passed. Medicaid cuts would harm some of our most vulnerable, the elderly and disabled.

I implore you to please scrap this bill and go back to the drawing table. Take time and gather all the input you possible can from medical associations to help improve the existing law. If you aren't looking out for us, the mass public - your constituents, who will?

Sincerely,
Stacy Shanahan
Wichita, KS
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Darrell Lea [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern - As a concerned citizen of the United States, I strongly urge all of you to **vote against** any kind of passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill. Americans need quality health care at affordable rates. That is not what this bill provides.

Sincerely,

Darrell Lea
Lawrence, Kansas USA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Victoria Appelhans [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

Please do not repeal ACA without bipartisanship and full debate of the issues.

Personally, I have a group policy which was in place before ACA. Repeal will not directly affect me unless I lose my job. If that happens, I have an auto immune disorder that will make it difficult for me to obtain insurance at all or else pay through the nose for coverage if pre-existing conditions come into play. And the ironic thing is: My condition is completely TOTALLY controlled with one small inexpensive medication taken daily. Otherwise, I am a healthy, active 58 year old. I'm sure many others with pre-existing conditions have similar stories.

Please PLEASE work together to fix Obamacare instead of being hellbent on repeal just to make a damn point!

Victoria Appelhans
Manhattan KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nannergirl [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: STOP this bill

Anyone voting for this bill should be ashamed of themselves, this is SO wrong for the American people.

Most people want a bipartisan effort to fix what's broken. Cramming this vote in without the CBO score is an atrocity.

Please stop this bill

Nancy Colburn

[REDACTED] St

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Gubbels [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

I am a Kansan and an American with a pre-existing condition. I urge all members of the Finance Committee, but especially Kansas Senator Pat Roberts, to vote NO on this bill. The bill gives states the right to protect or relinquish protections for pre-existing conditions. Why would you give away my health's federal protection and make it state legislator's political choice?

All of us voters will be watching your senate votes on this very carefully, and those of us still alive to vote in future elections will not forget.

Rebecca Gubbels
Merriam, Kansas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Adrian Waller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy Repeal Effort

Hello! I am a US citizen living in Wichita, KS. I want to offer my healthcare story for consideration with regard to the Graham-Cassidy repeal bill:

I was born with three rare diseases: situs inversus, hydrocephalus, and primary ciliary dyskinesia. The first requires no treatment. The second required that I have brain surgery for the first time when I was 6 months old, and half a dozen times since. The third is so rare that there is not an official code for it in the ICD-10; instead it is lumped together with my first diagnosis under the label Kartagener's Syndrome.

The third of the diseases, the rarest with very few treatment options, is the one that affects me most; it may have even caused the first two diseases during my prenatal development.

I was born into a world where people as sick as me were not valued. I learned this the hard way, when at age 19, I married the love of my life, and subsequently lost my health insurance (I was on my mother's plan), as the ACA and its protections did not yet exist. Once my coverage was terminated, I had no options: no one would cover someone with so many preexisting conditions.

I was 19, though, and young and full of energy (despite the fact that my lung function was already about 75% what it should've been for my age). I continued through my undergraduate education, happily married, but deteriorating quickly.

The summer after I turned 21, I was so sick I could barely walk across a room. I coughed constantly, and could no longer sing because my lungs were so weak. Luckily, we had connected with a new doctor at this point, who started a new direct primary care practice in Wichita, KS, my hometown. He quickly recognized how dire my situation was and demanded that I apply for disability (which I had already been denied for once around age 19). I qualified easily, acquired Medicaid, and the road to recovery began; however, most of the damage my lungs had incurred would be irreversible.

I continued intense, frequent treatments throughout college, sometimes having to visit the local hospital three times a day for IV antibiotics. Meanwhile, I maintained my grades and continued my involvement in serving the community around my school.

Today, I am 27 years old. I would go on to complete a Master's Program in Family Therapy and become a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist working in my own private practice part-time (due to my health).

You see, I recovered, but only partially. Today, my lung function is around 40%. A pulmonologist would expect to see my spirometry scores in someone well over the age of 100. But I can function. I get sick often. I only work part time. But I enjoy my life.

If the ACA existed even a few years sooner, or my state (Kansas) had chosen to expand Medicaid, this could've all been avoided.

The ACA could've saved my lungs. Instead, I'll be slated for a heart-lung transplant, possibly before age 40. This isn't the typical result for someone with PCD, either. If my disease had been aggressively treated throughout college, I may have lost no lung function, and may have even improved during that time.

Instead, I cannot work full time. I cannot volunteer as often as I want to. And oftentimes, like even today, I work while I'm sick because there's no other option.

The protections the ACA affords have saved lives. And they could've saved mine. The Graham-Cassidy bill throws away those protections and then doubles down by punishing people with disabilities like myself in capping Medicaid funding. In addition, I mentioned being a therapist. I primarily see clients with Medicaid coverage. These people NEED help. But they cannot afford treatment without Medicaid, and I cannot afford to see them for free because I cannot work full time because I wasn't protected when it mattered most.

Please keep others from my predicament and do better than the Graham-Cassidy bill. My life is not worth a tax cut for a rich person who doesn't need it.

Sincerely,
Adrian Waller, LMFT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Eby [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. There is no need to rush out a "repeal and replace" for the ACA. The main feature of this bill that makes it a loser is dropping the requirement for people to have health insurance. My adult children have had access to health care all their lives because I paid for health insurance even when it took 50% of my income. This bill will put both of my kids in jeopardy. My son just turned 26, is exceptionally healthy, and is accessing health care in another state. If you drop the requirement for insurance he would most likely take his chances, which could be financially disastrous for him and his future. By him dropping out, the cost of my insurance would go up! Plus, my husband and I have pre-existing conditions. My daughter depends on Medicaid. She is physically disabled and while she is very healthy and has an amazing immune system, she is vulnerable because of her cerebral palsy and is considered medically fragile. She could not afford to pay for her own health care, and I certainly could not afford to pay for her care as well as my own and my husband's. I will keep my comments to these, but there are problems with all of the features of this scary Graham-Cassidy concoction.

Jane L. Eby, Ph.D.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]