

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: G-C bill

Quality, affordable healthcare is important for ALL Americans. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,

Bianca Brown

Lawrence, KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claudia Gibson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill would take away protections for pre-existing conditions which would affect every member of my family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Claudia Gibson
Prairie Village, KS

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolescar [REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:15 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, affect my daughter and her husband, both unemployed and uninsured. They are set to move to Alabama or Florida in three weeks. My son-in-law just spent the weekend in an emergency room. They told him he needs to see a specialist as it might be cancer. He is only 36 and does not drink, smoke or do drugs. My daughter who is also 36, has several autoimmune diseases.

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

Sincerely,
Carole Carey
Lansing, KS [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Louise Pennewell [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Health Care

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

I was diagnosed with a terminal illness in 1999. The Doctors told me to prepare my affairs, that I had 2 years to live. In the 17 years that have gone by since then, I have had many close calls, including being in the ICU, on life support, this past February.

Thanks to the medical care I received, through COBRA, and then Medicare and my supplemental policy, i was here to raise my little girl. To teach her about integrity, honor & self esteem. I was here to be Guardian to my nephew, when he had a brain injury, on the job. I was here to see the birth of my grand daughter and to give her the love and care, that a Grandma should be here to give. I was here to give of myself to others.

Americans deserve to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. An effort that seeks to care for the people who make up this great Nation. A bill that is not about greed, or keeping the money in the pockets of a few, at the expense of the many.

The Graham-Cassidy bill points a gun at our fellow Americans, and decides who to pick off. It is inconceivable that those we have elected, would support this bill, just to get to 51. Vote NO.

Sincerely,
Louise Pennewell
Lawrence, KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jami Sanders [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill, Request to Improve Not Repeal ACA

I am an American with severe disabilities. I have PTSD, social anxiety, Bipolar I (currently with severe depression), and borderline personality disorder. Currently I am considered legally disabled and I am unable to work. I rely on quality affordable healthcare through medicare and medicaid (combined) and depend on the protections of the ACA with my pre-existing conditions.

For 16 years I taught in public high schools, contributing to society and giving with all my heart to the students that I believed (and still believe) were our future. I was once teacher of the year in Missouri before moving to Kansas where I taught online for six years. I loved my job and I developed student relationships and bonds so strong that when I became too disabled to work... my past students whose lives I had touched over those 16 years raised the \$3,500 for me to purchase a professionally trained Service Dog from a reputable program in Concordia, Kansas... because when you're main source of income is Social Security Disability, you barely make ends meet, and you don't have the money to buy your own Service Dog.

I am trying very hard now to recover from an abusive marriage where I was left isolated in a tiny room for nearly 6 six years. I did not leave the house or that room at all for 3 of those six years. The abuse I suffered has caused me such emotional and mental harm that I now suffer from the mental illness I previously mentioned. It is only with the treatment and support that I am able to obtain through my medicare and medicaid that I am able to get the support I need in order to function enough to handle basic life skills so that my teenage daughter can live with me and have somewhat of a normal life without having to be my caretaker, and so that I can do basic things such as shower, make meals, and occasionally grocery shop.

I require therapy, psychiatric visits, case management, peer support, and attendant care. My providers work with me to help me on a day to day basis because I have no other supports besides my medical providers. Without them, my daughter would end up in foster care, and I would end up homeless.

Please. Please... Please end the Graham-Cassidy bill. I oppose it because it will mean that families such as mine simply will not survive. My child should not have to suffer because of this bill. Please instead work together on a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not to repeal it.

Sincerely,
Jami Sanders
Parsons, Kansas [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Pack <[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.

Karen Pack
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Wood [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Cynthia Wood
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Luke Metzger [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.

Luke Metzger

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Hennick [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

To whom it may concern:

I am a small business owner and have supported my family successfully for 15 years.

My concern is the loss of the 'pre-existing condition' mandate. I am healthy, as is my family (thank God). I understand my insurance would protect us during the year of an illness/onset - but may cut us at the re-enrollment date. I am sure we could not withstand the cost of a recurrence if we were cut from a plan. And - having no health insurance is not an option for us.

I have played by every rule. I have realized a piece of the American Dream for me and for my family. I would be saddened if your actions potentially jeopardized my family's future.

Please, work for the American people, show some grace – reach across the aisle and find common ground. There is room for the Affordable Healthcare Act to change to make all more comfortable. When the bill is repaired, rebrand it as you wish – take all the credit – just please vote as if you were a 'regular' American and had to purchase insurance on your own.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hennick
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynne Hunter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's (9/25) Graham-Cassidy hearing.

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,

Charles and Lynne Hunter, [REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Goode [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I live and teach in a rural area in Kansas, so I constantly am in contact with children and families who rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have loved ones with pre-existing conditions that would be dramatically affected by any loss of coverage or access to health care, in some cases in life-threatening ways.

It is so important to me that our country comes together to protect the most vulnerable populations of our nation, including those who face illness. **I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Sincerely,

Ellen Goode

Pittsburg, KS [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Courtney Bell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

The Cassidy-Graham Healthcare Bill is reckless at best. As United States Senators, it is your obligation to act in a way that is best for Americans, not pass off your responsibilities onto other entities just so you can state that you met a campaign promise to repeal Obamacare. The fact of the matter is, there is no way of knowing what healthcare for most Americans would even look like under this bill, and we are talking about a reorganization of one sixth of our economy into complete uncertainty just to check off a political win, a completely shameful partisan maneuver. The one thing we know for certain is that the 74 million people who rely on Medicaid may no longer be able to count on the same level of services come 2026 under the Cassidy-Graham Bill. Estimates show that this bill will cut 170-215 billion dollars from Medicaid, figures that one cannot be certain of because expediting this bill has not allowed the CBO to adequately vet it. It is unacceptable to gamble the welfare of our most vulnerable citizens who rely on Medicaid, including 50% of babies born, 4 out of 10 American children, 2/3 of elderly Americans in nursing homes, and 10 million plus disabled Americans. This bill does not put America first; it prioritizes a campaign promise over the welfare of our citizens. As Senator McCain stated, "I believe we could do better working together, Republicans and Democrats, and have not yet really tried." That is what putting Americans first would actually look like, and I urge you to do so as you consider this inhumane legislation.

Thank you for your time,
Courtney Bell
Wichita, KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Evers [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare, voter opinion

To whom it may concern:

After 47 years of work, I am now eligible for Medicare, but since 40 of those years have been as an elementary school teacher, I don't have the resources to help my children and grandchildren with their healthcare bills. My family survives only if there is affordable, quality healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. A few months before I became eligible for Medicare, I had to have a large lump on my thyroid biopsied. Fortunately, it was non-cancerous, but I am still trying to determine how I will pay the lab bill, which is thousands of dollars. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, NOT repeal it. Thank you for your sincere efforts to empathize with millions of us in similar situations.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Evers

Lawrence, KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daphne Johnston <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for consideration prior to vote for Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

Several members of my family rely on quality, affordable health care that is provided by the current health care policy (ACA).

My brother, a 56 year-old, self-employed diabetic since childhood (diagnosed at age 4) was unable to get insurance for nearly 10 years until the Affordable Care Act made insurance available for someone with pre-existing conditions. The Marketplace made it possible for him to access affordable health care by way of a stipend and tax credit to reduce premium costs as a self-employed craftsman. He received health care that he was unable to access in his mid-life due to the health insurance policies and practices that existed prior to implementation of the ACA. Without a doubt, the quality of his life improved and affordable insurance made it possible for him to continue working, paying income taxes and staying off public welfare benefits.

My grand niece, severely disabled from the impact of multiple birth defects is alive today thanks to health care made available through expanded Medicaid. Her parents are able to continue working as they receive home nursing. My grand niece is able to attend school thanks to Medicaid benefits for the severely disabled.

Due to the potential devastating impact of reduction or loss of health care for these family members and hundreds of thousands of similarly-challenged Americans, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,
Daphne Johnston

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Coggins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy bill

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

Sincerely,

Margaret Coggins

Lawrence, KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lorene Damewood [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

A healthcare bill should be about providing actual affordable healthcare for ALL people, not a tax cut for millionaires or a tax break for wealthy corporations.

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

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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,
Lorene Damewood

Lorene Damewood
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edward [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am a retired social worker, having worked with the Department of Veterans Affairs. I would see first hand what effect lack of access to health care insurance has on veterans who were not eligible for care through the VA at that time. This extended to their family members who had chronic conditions--heart disease, emphysema, kidney disease, diabetes--and it was vital at that time they get medical care. Health insurance and health care are not the same entities but you cannot have health care without health insurance. It is impossible to see a Doctor on a routine, non-emergent basis without there being a guarantor of payment.

I have a two year old grandson who was diagnosed with epilepsy when he was a few months old. Luckily he has been stabilized on medication. He is seen regularly at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City. The seizure disorder, because he is so young, has affected his physical development for which he receives physical therapy. His parents could not afford the health insurance for the family. They have two other children. The father also has a pre-existing medical condition. Their son is covered under SCHIP. It is vital that this program be continued and expanded and that the Graham-Cassidy Bill be defeated.

Edward Acosta

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Catherine Phillips [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Catherine Phillips
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Star Withers [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham- Cassidy Amendment

Hi my name is Rachel Star Withers from South Carolina.

I am a schizophrenic. I grew up having hallucinations and treatment resistant depression. In college I had electro convulsionive therapy- it worked but I got brain damage. Relearned how to read and write and still graduated Summa Cum Laude.

I work 3 part time jobs (because can't work full time). And volunteer dressing up as Spider-Man for kids in children's homes in SC and NC.

Before Obamacare I could only afford catastrophe insurance which was useless and didn't cover anything. So I didn't go to the doctor because I couldn't afford it.

Obamacare leveled the playing field for me. I don't want a free handout, I just want the ability to afford help.

Please take people like me into consideration.

Thank you,

Rachel Star Withers

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hilda Flamholtz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Feedback on Graham Cassidy Health Care

I went searching for some information about the bill and found some analysis. I think it would be better if the subsidies to fund the mandate continued to be provided for a transitional period so no one who got healthcare comes off the rolls. Also, I think that you can do better on Medicaid to ensure as many people as possible are covered.

Please consider working changes in a bipartisan way but don't pass as-is.
Thank you,
Hilda Flamholtz
Columbia, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Priscilla Adams [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy bill

I live in Lindsey Graham's state of South Carolina, so I fear my words fall on deaf ears to my senators. Maybe this will get through. I have a daughter who lives in NY, a state that expanded Medicaid. She has severe lupus. She's not able to work full time because of her illness, though she tutors and edits students' papers online and manages to keep her head barely above water thanks to that work. Part of what makes it possible for her to survive financially is the fact that she can get health insurance through the Medicaid expansion, which she desperately needs. Her eyes are affected by the lupus so she has to see specialists so she won't go blind. She has to see her rheumatologist quite often. She sees wonderful doctors who give her excellent care, thanks to Medicaid. So she's able to work, she's able to pay taxes, she's able to stay alive and to see. Without Medicaid she could not afford insurance. With this Graham/Cassidy bill it's unclear whether there will still be any help for her. She's certainly loaded with pre-existing conditions that will make buying insurance on the open market impossible for her. Without it, she may well die from her lupus.

My son lives here in SC, which unfortunately did not expand Medicaid. But he's been working his ass off as a house painter so as to make enough to qualify for the ACA subsidy. He'd like to return to school, but then he can't work enough to afford insurance without the subsidy. Going forward, please try to fix this part, so that poor working people are not left paying more for their insurance than people who make more. But back to my son... though he is only in his 20s and has no major illnesses, he has various pre-existing conditions...alcohol addiction (sober 5 years, thank God), depression, and ADD. Insurance for him might be affordable under this new act, but not if pre-existing conditions spike the premiums, as appears highly likely.

I am 62 years old. My husband retired this year. I have Cobra insurance for now but it will run out before I am eligible for Medicare. I have thyroid disease, arthritis, and have had numerous pre-cancerous moles removed. What would insurance for someone like me cost on the private market? I will have about a year after my Cobra ends before I can get on Medicare. What will insurance cost under Graham/Cassidy? \$3000 a month? \$5000 a month? More? I can't do that. What happens if I have no insurance and I get cancer or heart disease or a stroke? My father died of heart disease in his forties. My mother had a stroke when she was just 62, like I am, that left her incapacitated and vegetating for the next 14 years until she died. Thank god she had insurance. I want to always be able to protect my family at least from the bankruptcy that will inevitably occur if something happened to me and I did not have insurance.

From what I can tell, this bill doesn't seem to do anything to help my family. It looks like we'll all be worse off under it. All the major medical associations have spoken out against it, and I trust that they understand it more thoroughly than I do. Please at least hold off voting for it until a full CBO score comes out. It's so wrong to vote on this before we know how many people may lose insurance, how many may die from that, how many hospitals may close, how many families will go bankrupt, how this impacts the economy. Healthcare is a huge part of our economy. It's wrong to rush this process the way it's being done. Please, please, work across the aisle and come up with a better bill. Do what's right for this country.

Priscilla Adams

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Harriet Showman [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Hearing

TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

Please slow down this hearing and return to the regular order of business in the Senate.

One hearing prior to a vote does not allow for two weeks of comments on the bill. There is no CBO score on this drastic measure.

One sixth of the American economy will be affected -- not to mention the millions of American's healthcare.

We deserve a thoughtful and deliberative process as well as the best coverage available for the most people. Graham Cassidy does not achieve this goal.

Please pause and think. Are the American people being well-served by this rush to fulfill a campaign promise?

You know it is not.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzanne Kreml [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Please Dear God No to Cassidy-Graham

> First of all, let's be clear. This is not a healthcare bill. That Cassidy and Graham would try to pass it off as such is an insult. Some are calling it Kochcare or Wealthcare because we see through the lies and the real agenda here. What has become of us? What has become of this nation? I am so ashamed. I have friends in Italy who ask me what is happening to our country and I have to apologize to them because I am so embarrassed. I explain to them this is what results when you have contaminated members of Congress - debauched, depraved, unscrupulous, unethical, sinful, unprincipled, dishonest and greedy members of Congress. Members who worship, and whose God is, the Almighty Dollar, so much so the people become irrelevant. We simply cannot tolerate this.

>
> Never mind that the content of the proposed bill is atrocious. It's worse than the first three in fact, proven by their approval ratings only being in the teens. So, if nothing else, vote on behalf of the people for that reason alone.

>
> I'm mortified that we're even having to fight so hard for what our Reps took an oath to do in the first place.

>
> PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO PASS!

>
> Suzanne Kreml
> Mt. Pleasant, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alliso [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Please, interject some humanity into these proceedings! Please return to the regular order of business in the Senate and slow down!

One hearing prior to a vote does not allow for two weeks of comments on the bill. There is no CBO score on this drastic measure that experts, medical groups and insurance co's say will result in untold damage to Americans and our economy.

One sixth of the American economy will be affected, and millions could either die or go bankrupt.

We deserve a thoughtful and deliberative process as well as the best coverage available for the most people. Graham Cassidy does not achieve this goal.

Please pause and think. Are the American people being well-served by this rush to fulfill a campaign promise?

You know it is not.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jimmy-and-Boo Townsend [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:30 PM
To: gchcomments

This latest health care bill(Graham-Cassidy) is horrible. It hurts many and helps none. My physician husband and I are totally against it. James and Lucretia Townsend Charleston, SC

townsend

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Benjamin A.O.Q. van der Wel [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

September 21, 2017

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

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 3
[REDACTED] 1

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I write to implore you in the strongest possible terms to help save the lives of many people in the United States and here in South Carolina by soundly rejecting the reckless, financially irresponsible, Graham-Cassidy health care bill. This unconscionable bill would strip healthcare from millions of Americans, violates the precept of "first do no harm," and bring enormous suffering to the country. In addition it will literally kill people if enacted by denying healthcare to veterans and people like me with pre-existing conditions, cause an enormous spike in premiums for everyone, destabilize the health insurance markets, and generally bring ruin to 1/5 of the nation's economy.

I have written to both of our Senators from South Carolina but they are choosing to listen to anyone other than their constituents. Their enthusiasm for this terrible piece of legislation has most of our state ready to bring them home next election.

At the very least I ask the Committee to reject this botched, hurried process and return to Regular Order in the Senate so hearings can be held, all people can be heard from, and that a bill that actually makes things better be drafted. Healthcare is too important to be rammed through the Senate to score a political point at the expense of people's lives. Please do your duty and reject this unexamined piece of legislation.

Millions of people like me with pre-existing conditions are depending on the Committee to bring sound fiscal sense into this process in order to save our lives. If you let this bill go to a vote on the floor it will kill people like me. Reject this massive fraud of a bill and work to help not hurt Americans. I and many people like me will be watching all of you and we all vote.

Sincerely,
B. Adrian van der Wel

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alex Rushley C [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

I live in Ohio, and this bill would be detrimental to all Ohioans. I am considering having a child in the next year or two, and I won't be able to afford to do so if maternity services are not covered by my insurance company. Insurance companies are not interested in providing us quality coverage-they want to sell us cheap coverage so they can make money. Forcing them to cover basic healthcare costs, like maternity services, is the only way to ensure all Americans have access to insurance for these conditions. Allowing insurance companies not to cover preexisting conditions is even worse. Again, they won't cover them if they don't have to, and then the American people are left on our own. Your job as our senators is to look out for your constituents' best interests, not the interests of the insurance companies or your political party. Us. The people who voted for you. This bill does not help any of your constituents get more affordable, better insurance. This will make things worse.

Thank you,

Alex Caughell
Columbus, Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer King [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy-Heller healthcare bill

Re: Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy-Heller healthcare bill

From: Jennifer King, 3912 Dubose Dr, Columbia, SC 29204

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

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill would be a catastrophe for my loved ones because it would consider my husband's previous heart infection and heart surgery a pre-existing condition and would not cover any future surgeries he needs to fix his defective heart valve. It would be detrimental to my sister because if there were lifetime caps she could not get the in-patient treatment and meds she needs to survive and not be homeless. It would destroy my friend who could not afford healthcare without the subsidies and force her to go without her cancer medication.

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Rice Johnson [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing. I SUPPORT THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND MY FAMILY WILL BE HARMED IF IT IS REPEALED

- Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
- Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
- Patricia Seay
- [REDACTED]

My family has two disabled members, myself and my son. We rely on Medicaid and Medicare for healthcare. Many people we know in the disabled community also rely on Medicaid or Medicare. If the Affordable Care Act is repealed, harm will come to my family and those in our community. The Graham-Cassidy Bill will NOT provide comparable healthcare coverage, not by far.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is playing politics with people's very lives. This mother and child, along with those in our community, cannot bear the burden of the reduction in healthcare coverage the Graham-Cassidy Bill proposes.

I beg you, prevent disaster by supporting fully the Affordable Care Act and in killing the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't cut Medicaid for Autism services

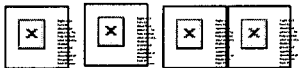
Good Evening,

I have a son with Autism who lives in an ICF MR level Group Home. He is 33 years old now, but has lived in the group home since he was 10 years old. His Autism is severe. He could not survive without this service. I can not take care of him, it would be physically impossible. He requires 24 hour supervision in a very structured environment.....a staff of people. If you aren't familiar with moderate or severe Autism, I urge you to look into it. I find most people don't really even understand what it is....especially when in some cases, television portrays Autism showing only slightly Autistic characteristics. Please visit an ICF MR level home for Autistic persons to see for yourself how needed these services are. Please, please, please don't make cuts that affect this population. They cannot survive without it.

Thank you so very much for your service.

Sincerely,

Diane Van Nuys
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am absolutely against this Bill. The Republicans do not care about the people who have done well under the ACA. They care only about ridiculous promises made to an uneducated voter base. These same voters will suffer when their healthcare is stripped because of pre-existing conditions. Most of the organizations responsible for the health of people are absolutely against this Bill. As a resident of South Carolina, a state who did not take advantage of the Medicaid Expansion, I have no faith that our Republican Legislators, including Lindsey Graham, care about taking care of the low income people in this state.

Sincerely,
Geraldine Greenfield

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MyRSVP [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My comments about the Graham-Cassidy bill

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

I was diagnosed in 2013 with breast cancer. As a self-employed small business owner, I don't have the sort of job where my employer carries my health insurance. Given a pre-existing condition like cancer, I would NEVER be able to afford coverage! No amount of block grants to South Carolina would provide affordable coverage for me or my family.

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

Sincerely,
Kelly Bragg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Kreml [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill

I would like to list reasons why the Graham-Cassidy bill will do incredible damage to the citizens of the US, even those in the states they're trying to buy with bribes and especially those that have tried to create better healthcare by accepting Medicare expansion.

1. This bill has not been analyzed and scored by the HBO, but reputable institutions like Brookings expect it to take insurance away from 15 to 32 million people, and remove Medicaid assistance from millions more.
2. This bill supposedly keeps the coverage for preexisting conditions that was provided by the ACA. In fact, by turning over most of the money and determinations of how to use the money to the states, it allows states to set unbearably high premiums for people with preexisting conditions. A person with severe cancer or other life and health-threatening diseases cannot pay premiums of many thousand dollars each money, so the allowed coverage is a cruel joke.
3. This bill destroys Medicaid as we know it, meaning the poor, disabled, and elderly will be without coverage.
4. South Carolina (Senator Graham's state, where I have lived since 1942) stands to benefit from the bill, although there is no evidence that the SC government has any interest in the welfare of its citizens. SC has not provided roads or education for its citizens, even when federal money was available. Why would healthcare be different? A current investigation is revealing the extent of corruption in the SC government, and Senator Graham could well become a target of investigation himself, having dealt with the company in question. States like SC need federal oversight--otherwise, state politicians just enrich themselves.
5. A clear example of the corrupt dealing that this bill entails is provided by the attempts to bribe Senator Murkowski and Senator Collins by revising the bill to provide more benefits for their states, Alaska and Maine.
6. I myself am a possible victim of this bill, if it passes. While I currently do well with Medicare and the supplement I have as a former state employee, that would not provide enough coverage to maintain me in a nursing home, since by the time that private long-term care insurance became available, I was already so old that those premiums were far beyond my budget. Without the additional support of Medicaid for nursing home care, I could become a serious burden on my family, who would also be trying to pay their own high premiums at the same time.

I hope the Senate Finance Committee will take seriously the problems that I and others are presenting, and not allow this bill to pass.

Nancy Mace Kreml
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Podell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

My husband and I are able to be self employed, versus unemployed because of the ACA. With his history of leukemia and mine of back surgery, we will yet again be uninsured let, and likely bankrupt under the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I know dozens of other older adults in similar positions. Please put your efforts into improving the ACA, not repealing it.

Sincerely,
Lisa Podell and Scott Eberhardt

DRIGGS, IDAHO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nicole Sherwood [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCHJ Proposal
Attachments: Public Comment GCHJ Proposal.doc

Greetings!

I am requesting that my letter (see attachment) be recorded as public comment regarding the GCHJ Proposal.

Have a great day!

Respectfully,

Nicole Sherwood
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Citizen input on Graham-Cassidy bill

I write in support of the Affordable Care Act and to express my strong opposition to any future attempts to repeal or weaken this important public health law, including the Graham-Cassidy proposal that contains many of the same negative provisions as the proposals rejected by the Senate earlier this year.. The Graham-Cassidy proposal would cut health coverage and raise premiums and out-of-pocket costs for millions. I strongly urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and any other effort to repeal or weaken the ACA and instead continue the ongoing bipartisan efforts to improve and strengthen the ACA.

Lisa Jordan
North Augusta, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: How Graham Cassidy will effect me

Hello,

I'm a lifelong SC republican voter. I supported Senator Graham for years. This bill is going to change that.

My husband and j are self employed. We rely on the US marketplace for our family of five's health insurance. While the ACA is far from perfect, the proposed Graham Cassidy bill is abysmal. I'm very concerned that my autoimmune diseases will preclude me from finding reasonable coverage. What good is health insurance if it's unaffordable? What good is it if it's simply limited to those who don't need it? I'm in the age range that is projected to have the most expensive plans.

I've voiced my displeasure to all of the elected officials. I feel duped by the GOP.

Lisa Savage
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Kelly [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I work in the healthcare sector. You guys aren't seeing or hearing the people. You want money. I get that. You're being swayed by God knows what but I'm sure the Koch Brothers are involved. I'm not begging for healthcare coverage because-you know what- the GOP is smarmy. I could be dying on the steps of Lindsey Graham or Tim Scott's office and I'm petty sure they'd do nothing. Everyone in DC is paid off. It's no secret. So since I'm paying YOUR taxes along with millions of other people, we at least deserve to know the mechanisms in which these insane bills are created. We are getting taxation without representation. Read the news. Politicians aren't doing they're job---unless they are in an election cycle.

This country disturbs me. I wish I could live in Europe. Oh, but I'm not bilingual because it's not taught from a young age.

Anyways. Trump sucks. The administration sucks. The GOP sucks. I may not like everything the Democrats do but they'd NEVER put up a bill like this.

Sincerely,
A pissed SC resident that can't leave this country

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill

I am writing in regard to the new healthcare bill in play now. I have an 18 year old grandchild that is a type 1 diabetic. She has been on Medicaid for years. We have stressed to her over the years that she needed a good education in order to get a good job with good benefits such as health insurance. Her meds alone have jumped up in cost several hundred dollars a month this year alone. Just insulin alone is \$1,500.00 a month. She has to see special doctors for her diabetes, kidneys and eyes. She has had two er visits this year. These are not cheap!! She will age out of South Carolina's Medicaid program when she turns 19. How is she suppose to attend school and work to pay for her medical bills? From what I have read about this bill if just doesn't seem to work for us or for millions of other Americans, it is not affordable. My child nor the millions of other Americans that cannot afford healthcare do not deserve to die because we are not wealthy. This is not how America is suppose to work!!!!
Please help us keep this bill from passing.

Thank you,

Karen Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Huffmon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Healthcare

I am against the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. I do not want states to have control regarding healthcare. I want all people, of this great nation, to have equal and excellent coverage healthcare insurance. I also do not want to see people being at the risk of losing insurance rather more people being covered. I am also concerned that The American Cancer Association does not endorse this healthcare bill. I want to know that if I or someone I know gets cancer or other life threatening diagnosis that their coverage will not be impacted or the amount they pay in the future to go up.

Thank you for you time to help make this country even greater!

Robin Huffmon
Rock Hill SC
my senator is Graham so who do I complain to??!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health Bill

I am writing to express my horror at the final desperate attempt of the GOP to pass the Graham Cassidy bill. As a resident of South Carolina, I am outraged that my Senator Lindsey Graham, who seemed to be one of the few Republican leaders who questioned the hastiness with which the previous nightmare of Trumpcare was being presented, voted for it anyway and then presented an even worse bill.

I don't know how these politicians do it, I really don't. How you can be so above the rest of the world and its suffering and pain and write a garbage bill to satisfy your own strange morality. Your own obsession with being right. Being powerful. I will never understand it, I suppose. But I will continue to oppose it and fight it.

My best friend nearly died of cancer. Twice. Another friend has diabetes and will have to buy expensive medication for the rest of her life. Just to survive. There are more stories than I can retell in a single email of people who depend on the care they receive under current Obamacare provisions and without a better alternative, they just might suffer needlessly. Die for no reason.

Why should we have to beg to keep our loved ones alive? It is ludicrous. It is infuriating. It is sickening.

I don't know who you are, reader. I can't imagine working in politics. I imagine you started off very optimistic, maybe even thinking you would make some kind of difference. Be on the right side of history. Express your humanity on a bigger stage with a louder microphone than most of us ever get. Now is the moment you are being tested. You are being asked to stand up and speak up for what is right. Read the countless emails you are about to get. Speak their truth to power with the mouthpiece you have been given. Tell your higher ups that people will die. People will suffer over and over again with this bill. And for what? I genuinely don't understand. So a bunch of white men in suits can toast a victory? So they can remind their constituents once again, that they hold the cards and they hold the power?

We get that. It has been expressed in thousands of ways since the beginning of this administration. We understand what power can do to a person. We see it every day, personified in the ugly actions of ugly men.

I am not sure why we are here, in this particular place in history. But I know this- we are not going away. We, the masses who oppose this bill and the things it represents for every day people.

If the intention is to wear down the public until they are too tired to fight, I think the public has been underestimated.

Don't pass this bill.
Don't pass this bill.
Do not pass this bill.

Erin Johnson
Rock Hill, South Carolina

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Maddox [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.

John Maddox
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Smith [mailto:lsmith100@congress.net]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Linda Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Robert Flory

[REDACTED]@verizon.com

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 20014

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Bradley Rikard
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 1

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Allen [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.

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Judith Allen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 49

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angelina Drum <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I live in South Carolina with our two young boys. We are fortunate to have a great employer healthcare plan but as a young adult, I was not so fortunate. I know what it's like not to have access to routine medical care, to avoid going to the doctor even when you feel like you should for fear of the bill and to have to spend so much once you do finally go. I know others that aren't so lucky and I live in fear that one day our family might not be fortunate. Everyone deserves quality, affordable healthcare. That's why I support the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve it and not repeal it.

Thank you,
Angelina Drum

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Verdell Taylor [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.

Verdell Taylor
[REDACTED]
1 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia THOMAS [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:47 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.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@gmail.com
[REDACTED]
F [REDACTED] 01

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: POLITE, JR., DON S [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: #Graham-Cassidy comments

To whom it may Concern:

I'm still against the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson healthcare bill. The rhetoric around it is sound, but the bill itself comes up short. The idea of setting up a federalist version of healthcare where states have the freedom and flexibility to come up with innovative solutions is a valid one. However, this bill does not set up a system like that to adequately function. For one, there is the amendment that explicitly bans any state from using funds to set up a single payer system which betrays that logic. Additionally, states that took the Medicaid expansion would be disproportionately impacted by having those funds reduced and redistributed to other states, limiting their ability to either run a single payer system or maintain the system as it is-a scenario that flies in the face of state flexibility and freedom. Additionally, there are no requirements or standards that any state has to meet in terms of how it uses those block grants. Any system that sends block grants to the states should also have a slate of minimum standards, results, and outcomes that they are supposed to meet for receiving federal funds. It is set up to be a system that is extremely wasteful if states are allowed to do what they wish without any accountability measures for how money is used. And considering this bill is being passed so quickly, states and governors will have limited time to come up with a plan and execute it effectively to best make use of block grants in the transition from the ACA. And lastly, setting up a system that is going to expire in ten years is a horrible way to alter the healthcare system as it takes nearly that long to adequately transition to a healthcare overhaul. All in all, there is a glimmer of an idea present but it is so poorly executed that this bill would be an embarrassment to reach the Senate and house floors.

Sincerely,

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilyn Harris [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't support Graham Cassidy

I am a cancer survivor and the mother of a cancer survivor currently in remission and a constituent of Senator Graham. I wholeheartedly disagree with the Graham Cassidy Bill. It would be a disaster for our family.

Please don't pass this deadly bill.

Best Regards,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Joy Smellie [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Americans' health and well-being should be a priority for every official elected to serve their interests. Sadly, this bill works against health and well-being for millions. It should never have been submitted; it must not become law.

As to the not-so-hidden agenda of using the so-called savings to give a huge tax break to medical device manufacturers, I'm glad medical devices exist. An advanced \$40,000 dollar one gave my husband several more years of active life. But the device was paid for by us and our primary and secondary insurances. One must presume they made a fair profit on the transaction. There is no good reason to give them additional profits using our tax dollars instead of theirs to fund the government.

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

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andy Posey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

My family like most Americans needs reliable and affordable health care. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill as it seeks to take drastic measures that would raise rates for many Americans and leave many citizens, including children, uninsured. I know the ACA is not perfect, but it would be more logical to reform and improve the ACA with bipartisan Congressional effort. There are some good parts in the ACA. Just work to modify areas that could use improvement.

Sincerely, Gene Posey

Columbia, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

Why are they trying to give a huge tax break to the medical device industry? OPPOSE such tax break! What a scam. Don't you politicians watch those awful commercials touting medical devices at taxpayer expense? Complete rip-off.

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

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@gmail.com
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bovio, Charlene [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

This new proposal for replacement of ACA is terrible. In short, we all know that it will hurt so many Americans.

Plenty of Health Organizations have come out condemning this bill.

By pushing this bill that will affect 1 in 6 without debates or a CBO score is much more than worrisome. It is outrageous.

Please do not pass this bill. Instead, please return to regular order and improve our existing health care program.

Thank you for your time in this most important issue,

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Evelyn B. [REDACTED] m>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I want to register my comment against the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a self-employed small business owner, I rely on the ACA to provide quality healthcare at a price I can afford. The ACA has problems--this is a fact that anyone can agree with, but repealing broad sections of it will not fix those, it will only hurt millions of people who rely on it like me.

Americans deserve healthcare. Please stop wasting time trying to repeal an act that has helped so many--after over 70 attempts, don't you think it's time to give up on this fool's errand and work together to fix what we already have? When hospitals, healthcare providers, and the majority of Americans are saying this is a bad idea, perhaps it's time to listen to them.

I find it incomprehensible and shameful that in the 21st century, America refuses to grant basic healthcare to its citizens--a right that one can find in every other industrialized nation *and* many un-industrialized ones.

Sincerely,

Evelyn
Charleston, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both my husband and myself have pre-existing conditions that we would not be able to afford the care for if he loses his insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Gail Stephenson
Woodruff, South Carolina

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shanon McAlister <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

My friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Without the ACA a lot of people I know would be without health care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. This is where all energy and efforts should be when it comes to health care. .

Sincerely,

Shanon McAlister

Charleston, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Many families rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband who has had type 1 diabetes since college would have a very difficult time getting affordable health care with his pre-existing conditions. His recent emergency overnight hospital stay cost slightly more than \$20,000! Expenses of this magnitude would be impossible without affordable health care.

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

Sincerely,

Decie A. Jones

Simpsonville, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Sullivan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

Dear Senators,

My extended family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My mother and brother have affordable healthcare for the first time in their lives under the ACA. Before the ACA they had to go to the emergency room for care, which clogged up the emergency room from doing its true purpose- dealing with emergencies. Because of their financial situations, they could not afford the emergency room bill. Life spiraled from there, a never ending financial battle. They were not empowered to take care of their health under preventive care due to unaffordable and unobtainable health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sullivan
Myrtle Beach SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to voice my opposition to the current health care bill being put forward. This bill is NOT a good solution and will hurt millions of low and middle income people as well as senior citizens. I respectfully ask that a bipartisan solution be found, one that will make health care for everyone great, affordable and not leave anyone behind as promised by Donald Trump. A health care bill that our own government employees and politicians will "love" to make their own. I do NOT want the States handling our health care dollars as many are corrupt (look at SC for example). Respectfully,
Kathleen Zeiser, Hilton Head, SC 29926

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Trudy Crow

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

John Schenck
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alyson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy comments

Good afternoon,

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

The protections and expansions of the ACA have impacted my life in significant ways. Following college, I served abroad for two years as a volunteer in Malawi, Africa. Three days before returning home, I suffered a miscarriage. This was a terrifying experience in and of itself for my husband and I, intensified even more so by being in a country with inadequate and dangerous health care. Upon returning home to Texas, I of course did not have insurance, but desperately needed medical attention to remedy the harm done in Malawi. Because of the ACA's expanded age limit, I was able to join my parents' health plan and receive the care I needed. This assurance of care also allowed me to find a wonderful job in due time.

Nobody believes that the ACA is perfect, myself included. But I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I am confident that the majority of Americans feel the same. The time for one-upping the other side of the aisle and earning political points at the expense of people's actual day-to-day lives is over. I shudder to think at how such self-serving actions of some of the 50 senators will actively harm millions of American families, including children, who already bear the burden of illness, disability, and any number of preexisting conditions. Please act with them in mind. We have all seen the statistics of this bill's impact. There is no denying and no hiding from this.

Thank you for your time in considering this incredibly important bill that will affect the lives of millions of hard-working Americans.

Sincerely,

Alyson Banda

Spartanburg, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy Bill

I think making sure we take care of the poor and sick among us should be a priority. I don't mind paying extra to make sure that happens. A resounding "NO" on any bill (especially the one being considered now) that does not do this.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Talmadge Burnette [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Gentlemen,

Graham-Cassidy is only a last attempt to repeal the ACA. , I would think that there should be bipartisan Congressional effort to improve health care for all Americans. This plan is even worse than the previous one. You are hurting a larger percentage of veterans, men who have sacrificed for us all. Agree, there should be no free ride but it is a free ride for you when you do not look after many of my fellow Vietnam vets and those who followed in our conflicts.

Sincerely,
Talmadge Burnette
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Yaffe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

My family, and all families, rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son has had a very rough year, and I would like him to be able to continue to receive the mental-health counseling he needs after he turns twenty-six this year. The American people have told you over and over again that the ACA saves lives, and they want to keep it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Carol Yaffe

Columbia, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Manuel Cantoria [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Some GOP senators may be well-intentioned in their support of this bill. Others may favor it for less-than-honorable reasons: e.g., to get rid of anything President Obama stood for, to free up money to fund tax cuts for the wealthy, to tow the GOP line regardless of consequences, or due to pressure from donors.

Personally, I think Graham-Cassidy is terrible. Too many people will lose their health care coverage. I cannot in good conscience support something that will hurt my fellow citizens. Why Senators who were elected to serve their constituents would support G-C is unconscionable.

I urge every member of the Senate to vote "NO" on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you.

Manuel Cantoria
Constituent from South Carolina (ZIP 29909)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Mann [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,
Susan Mann
Mission, KS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charles Figel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public comment for Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is that without it, I would be in complete and total disastrous debt from the birth of my two completely unplanned (and who both beat birth control), beautiful children. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Charles Figel

Central, South Carolina

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Talmadge Burnette [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Health Care

Pardon me, should have addressed it Gentlemen and Ladies, and men and women who have sacrificed.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Talmadge Burnette [REDACTED] >
Subject: Health Care
Date: September 23, 2017 at 2:23:22 PM EDT
To: [REDACTED]

Gentlemen,

Graham-Cassidy is only a last attempt to repeal the ACA. , I would think that there should be bipartisan Congressional effort to improve health care for all Americans. This plan is even worse than the previous one. You are hurting a larger percentage of veterans, men who have sacrificed for us all. Agree, there should be no free ride but it is a free ride for you when you do not look after many of my fellow Vietnam vets and those who followed in our conflicts.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Johnson, Emily [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

This message was sent securely by MUSC

Hello-

I wanted to tell my story to support opposition of the Graham Cassidy Bill. My husband, 41years old, was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in December 2016. We have been married for 14 years and have two young boys, ages 6 and 10 years. Since diagnosis, my husband has been through three rounds of chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant. He is still undergoing treatment to beat this disease. My husband and I are former Division I collegiate athletes and have strived to live very healthy lives. We have respectable jobs that we also worked hard to achieve through higher education. Through no fault of our own, my husband got this horrible disease. We currently have insurance that is helping pay for some of his medical services.

If the Graham Cassidy Bill passes, we will without a doubt go bankrupt and my husband will die. It is not fair for my children and I to lose part of our family, while going bankrupt in the process. Thank you for consideration of opposition of this bill which will harm many innocent Americans. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information you may need.

Emily Johnson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] or
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

This message was secured via TLS by MUSC.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bakerk58 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Sirs,

It is not the action of a civilized nation to promote legislation which leaves open even the POSSIBILITY that medical coverage will be denied to people who can't afford it. Or people whose blameless illnesses consume a lot of care. Or women whose life circumstances leave them in a financially vulnerable state. Or elders who have no one to care for them. Or babies born unlucky with expensive congenital defects.

It is not a true democratic nation whose leaders promote legislation that does these harms, without concern for the welfare or the wishes of the people.

It is a morally bankrupt nation that allows these things to happen to assuage the temper of an inexperienced and ego driven tyrant.

No to Repeal and Replace. We are better than this.

Kathleen Baker
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Spofford <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

William Spofford
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: B A Dragon [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy Bill

This is Trump Care only worse. There is NO protection for people with preexisting conditions. They can end up paying exhorbinant premiums. In fact there is no real definition of preexisting conditions, which allows a bad case of the flu to potentially raise one's premium.

For those of us who are older, we can be charged up to 5 times the normal premium just by virtue of having lived longer. This now that we are on fixed incomes and many of us are dependent on Social Security and Medicare.

Let me tell you about the ACA. My friend had cancer 15 years ago with no reoccurrence since. Her insurance was \$4,000 a MONTH. It did not cover annual exams, medication, or routine healthcare. It ONLY covered catastrophic events. Is this what we are to return to??

After the ACA, she was able, on an ample income, to obtain insurance for \$400 a month. Still expensive, but it covered everything. She has regular exams, is able to afford medication with a small co-pay, and can go to the doctor when she has a virus. She gets flu shots and keeps from getting sick. She does not have to go to the Emergency Room (which costs us all money) when she is sick. No, she does not have cancer again because she has finally been able to be checked. So she does not live in fear.

Emergency Rooms are far too expensive to use for routine health care, but that is the only option without insurance. Y'all need to sit down - together - in a bipartisan meeting and find a way to make healthcare (decent healthcare) available for everyone. It is a shame that the USA is just above Costa Rica in the quality of its care and is the ONLY civilized country that does not provide care for all of its citizens. It is cheaper for us all to do so. It is better to have healthy workers and healthy children than to pay higher insurance premiums and ridiculous hospital bills when the ER is the only option and people wait until they are severely ill before seeking help.

The ACA has been a good start. Why not fix it - or even consider Medicare for All (which will effectively repeal and replace for those who still insist that is so important)?

Sincerely
B. A. Dragon
Greenville, SC

chronic health problems that would impact the quality of her life and would require expensive interventions for the rest of her life.

Because of her strenuous academic curriculum in graduate school, she could not work full time and complete her studies. Therefore she did not have, and could not afford, health insurance of her own. Because of the Affordable Care Act, she was able to remain on our health insurance policy after she graduated from college, and throughout her graduate school program, until she completed her degree and secured full-time employment. She was able to receive the medical care, treatment, and medications she needed to secure a healthy future. She now has health insurance through her employer. The ACA provision prohibiting exclusion of pre-existing conditions in coverage is essential for her. She continues to manage her health well with her own policy. Additionally, her ability to secure coverage for her reproductive health needs as mandated by the ACA is essential to her managing this health condition – which, again, is unrelated to pregnancy prevention, though it is treated with “contraceptive” medication.

To allow employers to refuse to cover reproductive health, or to de-fund organizations that support women’s reproductive health, is an unconscionable and deliberate subjugation of half the population of the country.

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

Kathy Bradley

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

[REDACTED] P.O.

[REDACTED] 06026

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Bradley [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

I am appalled and ashamed that my senator has proposed a bill which will harm thousands of his constituents, including my daughter, and tens of millions of the citizens that he took an oath to serve – all in the name of partisan politics, political posturing, and corporate profit. To allow the sick, the poor, the elderly, the disabled, and children to suffer for his own personal agenda is unconscionable. This bill must be stopped!

But don't take my word for it. Read the AARP's study of the bill here:

<http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2017/09/graham-cassidy-legislation-threatens-affordable-coverage-for-older-americans.pdf>

My adult daughter was diagnosed with a reproductive health condition after graduating from college, while she was working part-time before beginning graduate school. She requires the hormones contained in contraceptive pills to treat this reproductive health condition, which is unrelated to preventing pregnancy. She is prescribed "birth control pills" as the medically indicated treatment.

Because she worked part-time at the time of her diagnosis, she was not eligible for health insurance from her employer. Her condition, if left untreated, would result in long-term,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jean Spencer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

It is unconscionable that any decent lawmaker would suggest the newest version of Trumpcare that would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, the biggest travesty is sneakily hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes. What could any reputable elected official be thinking is ok with this!!?? Vote no and STAND FOR THE PEOPLE!

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

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

Jean Spencer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilyn Sonnenberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Marilyn Sonnenberg
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 7740

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing (Finance Committee)

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As an aging woman with pre-existing conditions, Graham-Cassidy will raise my premiums, eliminate protections for my preexisting conditions, and remove the essential health benefits I depend on.

Nor can my state afford the loss of Medicaid funds through proposed block grants and per capita caps in this bill. At least 12 rural South Carolina hospitals are at grave risk of closing in the event of this bill's passage. More importantly, South Carolina does not have the resources or infrastructure to sufficiently manage such an enormous undertaking as state-managed healthcare. The availability of quality healthcare must not become dependent where a person lives.

Graham-Cassidy will bankrupt both my state and me personally.

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

Sincerely,
Marta Bliese
Columbia, SC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peggy Krzyzewski [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCHearing

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal attempt. My husband has Lymphoma and was denied health insurance because of his pre-existing condition. The least expensive state-sponsored "special option" program would have cost him \$20,00-\$30,000 per year. That's with a \$10,000 deductible. That is impossible for a middle-class family, unless we sold our house. As it was, we spent our life savings on insurance premiums. Is that what we're supposed to do? If not for the ACA we would have had to declare bankruptcy.

Fix the ACA, please! Do not destroy it.

For the love of God, do not pass this insane and inhumane bill.

Margaret Krzyzewski

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise Andre [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

Greetings;

The American Medical Association opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

The American Psychiatric Association opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

The American Public Health Association opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

The National Institute for Reproductive Health opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

The Federation of American Hospitals opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

The American Academy of Pediatrics opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

The Association of American Medical Colleges opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists opposes the Graham/Cassidy act.

I also oppose the Graham/Cassidy act.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Andre

--

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teresa Melson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy Bill

This travesty must not pass. Every medical association in America, the Majority of state governors & directors of state Medicaid are against this. The American people KNOW this is NOT about healthcare. It is a Republican tax pay off scheme for the lobbyists/Koch brothers/Super Pacs to whom they owe money. They are willing to throw the American people & their healthcare under the bus to keep a campaign promise that we don't want them to keep. Shame on them.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Moore-Pope, Sandra <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:40 PM
To: gchcomments; Wright, Kevin (Finance); Dent, William (Isakson)
Cc: Moore-Pope, Sandra
Subject: Please vote NO on the Cassidy- Graham bill

I am a social worker in Atlanta and a faithful voter. I strongly urge you all to vote NO on the Cassidy-Graham Bill!

I work with developmentally delayed babies and toddlers--the sickest, smallest, and the most at-risk newborns from our Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Units.

I am painfully aware of the need for early intervention with these babies in their first years of life. Almost all of our critically challenged little ones depend on Medicaid to help fund their care--at least as a secondary insurance, because very, very few of the other insurances that some parents might have are going to be adequate to cover these babies needs.

Early intervention to help the babies develop to be their best through clinics like ours is The Right Thing To Do; in addition, it is fiscally much wiser and less expensive to help them when they are infants than it is to support them in adulthood because we were too short-sighted to spend the money early on.

Our Medicaid programs make the difference. Please do not take their future away from these babies.

We need healthcare programs for all of us that is based on careful study, adequate research, and a little compassionate discussion from both parties. I am confident that this could actually be accomplished by leaders of your stature if you took the time to develop a well researched and bipartisan program...but the Cassidy-Graham Bill is not it.

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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: Kaylin Lang [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am a constituent from Chattanooga, TN and my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My sister-in-law is 21 years old and has been sick with dysautonomia since she was 13. Her specific form of dysautonomia is also known as POTS (Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome.) Her symptoms include lightheadedness, fainting, unstable blood pressure, and abnormal heart rates causing shortness of breath and severe chest pains. POTS is often compared symptomatically with conditions seen in COPD or congestive heart failure. To date, there is no cure for her condition. She is thankfully on my in-laws (her parents) insurance as she is not yet 26 years old. But, this bill you are proposing will put her in the "pre-existing condition" category. Because of her illness, she's been unable to finish High School or get any kind of job/work experience. She has no income and relies fully on her parents financial support to help her through this.

My father was diagnosed with MS (Multiple Sclerosis) and has been in a wheelchair since I was 9 years old. I am now 30. I've watched his quality of life dwindle and his disease worsen dramatically, with more times than I care to count where I've been worried I'd no longer have a dad. Because of this, I know all too well the ins-outs of health insurance. I've heard the fucked up reasons they give us for not helping financially with health treatments or essential equipment, despite a doctors written and verbal order for both. With 21 years of this condition affecting not only my dads health, but also my mother's, whom has played full-time caregiver since he became a quadriplegic, I've seen what "insurance" can really be like. For this reason, I believe in quality, affordable healthcare FOR ALL. Taking away the ACA and it's benefits for people like my family would be a great disservice.

The ACA is not perfect, but because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Pushing through a "health care" bill without first seeing it's costs and what it would do for the American people is irresponsible and disgusting. I desperately want to have faith in this administration, but this display of heartless and foolish actions on behalf of the Republican party make me anything but proud to be a part of this country. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kaylin Lang

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: shutterwi . [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: For the Congressional Record Re: The Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal.

Finally the GOP is putting together a plan that is sure to fully implement the death panels which key republicans have been referring to since the ACA was in the works.

This plan is a ruse intended to try and slip-in the killing of Obamacare.

Also, getting the additional benefit that the GOP seems to prefer.

Kicking millions off healthcare and "killing" thousand of Americans every year. Because they lack healthcare

W. A Griffiths
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maggie Gaudaen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In Opposition of Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello Senators,

My family and I, as well as my colleagues, rely on quality, affordable healthcare. This includes access to affordable maternity care and birth control. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. It is crucial for my generation that we are able to afford family planning services and unexpected medical expenses.

Please note my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you and have a good weekend,

Maggie Gaudaen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Please do not pass this bill. Better to take the time and do it right. Why are we trying to reinvent the wheel? We have the ACA in place, let's make the necessary changes to improve this. Don't want to hear your excuses any longer..

Please show the American people some real bipartisan leadership and stop trying to undo everything that president Obama enacted. I really have to question the motivation behind this nonsense. You are all truly a disappointment to us.

Please do what is right and stop taking your lead from the dotard.

Thank you for listening.
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Owens [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill

To the Senate Finance Committee on the hearing on the Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of thousands of real people that have disabilities. People with hearts and souls and wants and needs and desires just like you and I. The only difference is that people with disabilities have to work so much harder to accomplish things that we take for granted.

I want to tell you just one story of many that I have experienced with my daughter. My daughter is a beautiful young woman , 41 years old. She has Cerebral Palsy and is legally blind. She has inspired so many people with her wonderful heart and her determination to succeed as a citizen willing to give of herself to care and think of others first. She graduated with a diploma from high school. She has volunteered with the SPCA, nursing homes, horseback riding , church activities, singing in church that brings the congregation to tears, etc , all from her wheelchair. She is loved by many and also loves many.

A year and a half ago she developed an ulcer on her hip. No doubt from having to sit in a wheelchair all her life. We have spent our whole lives caring for her and trying to make her life meaningful. But she has made our life so meaningful. She had an operation on that ulcer to help it heal better. Unfortunately, the Dr made lots of mistakes with the surgery and it was a failure. From that point on (a year and a half ago) she has been in the hospital several times. She nearly died one of those times and the others were weeks of frustrations trying to get care for her that would actually make her better. Not only has that experience affected her physically but very emotionally also. She has become so fearful that I (her mother)sleeps beside her every night in a recliner because she has nightmares that the Dr that did the surgery is trying to catch her and kill her. She now has a panic disorder which can strike her and does often, several times a day) causing her to be so scared and frantic that she has ticks now that she has no control of. Very frightening! As a result, we now make weekly trips 45 minutes away to a psychiatrist and counselor to try to help her to feel safe and secure again. After a year and a half her wound is still healing . This limits the amount of time that she can sit in her chair and therefore limits the time she has to enjoy life. This has been such a depressing year and a half. It has caused the rest of the family tremendous stress as well. But we continue to fight to get somewhat back to "normal" Without the help of medicaid, my daughter would have died. Without the help of medicaid, my daughter would not have had even a fighting chance to live. Can you imagine, your own child, in a similar situation, and no way to give them a fighting chance. Can you imagine the frustration, the hurt that you would feel, watching your child die just because there was no help for them . I almost had to watch that happen to my child and believe me , it is a devastating feeling. Please, don't make cuts to medicaid! People will die. Many people will suffer if you make cuts to medicaid. Show us that our citizens matter to you, please.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Toby Davis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

A country which has a government who refuses to listen to an overwhelming majority of its citizens, cannot call itself a representational democracy. The reason this congress has such low ratings is because the people they represent is such a tiny minority of wearily campaign donors.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barb Mckinney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH bill

Be grateful you are healthy and be helpful to those who aren't.

My brother has Cerebral Palsy and this bill would create a devastating hardship to his life.

Life is precious, and I feel it shouldn't be tossed aside because those in need are an inconvenience to you.

Instead of scrapping a complete program that has saved so many, why not try to work with each other to see what can be done to improve it. This isn't about a "socialist" program. This is about providing basic health care to all.

Is your disdain for the previous President so strong that you would kill millions of people just to remove this policy? Is your loyalty to pharmaceutical companies stronger than loyalty to the people of this country?

How much time and money must you spend to take away a policy that saves lives?

Barb McKinney

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsay Nakaishi [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because as a physician working in a family medicine clinic that serves primarily low-income individuals, I know this will be detrimental to the health of many of my patients, especially children who receive essential Medicaid coverage. Taking health care options AWAY from Americans, especially children, is inhumane. These individuals receive care that prevents death and disease. Can you live with the knowledge that you will contribute to the deaths and diseases of children? Please do not support this catastrophic proposal, it will inevitably create a greater healthcare crisis.

A Very Concerned and Active Voter,
Lindsay Nakaishi, MD, MPH

Lindsay Nakaishi
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CHRIS CONIGLIO [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

It is incredible that you will try to push a vote on a bill whose cost is unknown or how many will lose healthcare or not have coverage for pre existing conditions. This is not healthcare but DeathCare. This bill is worse than the last version

The fact that you are trying to push this through by Sept 30 is truly astounding. We the people are not stupid. The Senate rules change and you will need 60 votes to change it.

What i don't understand is this irrational need to undo anything linked to the Obama administration not matter who it hurts.

I believe in several things

1. There should be term limits for Senators/Representatives. It was the smart intention of the founding fathers that people serve for a few years and then go back to their previous lives. This should NEVER be a full time job.
2. If you pass this bill you should be made to partake of it not be exempt. You are not special and should not have special rules.
3. The Koch/Mercer and other freedom caucus members should not be allowed to influence elections the way they have. gerrymandering to ensure their candidate is elected basically is rigging the system.
4. You all need to look inward and reflect are we representing the people or our own special interests?
5. The old saying that Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely is so true. None of you are to be trusted.
6. When you are debating bills think how it serves We the people not the few.

I love America. I have traveled the world and I am always thrilled to fly home back to the greatest country but I am ashamed that we treat healthcare as a privilege not a right. A right to basic care, not to worry about how to pay or am I going to lose my home and file bankruptcy.

Please consider how this affects We the people. Do not be influenced by people who do not have We the people's best interest at heart.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: BARBARA SCOTT [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

PLEASE do not pass this bill! Yes, Obamacare needs some changes to make it better than it ALREADY IS. Let's work together to find a way to continue health care for our citizens, and to make the system work even better.

Working together in Congress. Wouldn't that be nice!

Barbara Scott

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Morgan Todd [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill

It would take away healthcare from between 21 million and 32 million Americans. Many of those Americans will go bankrupt. Many of those Americans will die. Graham-Cassidy will weaken America by leaving so many Americans financially ruined and devastated by loved ones dying of preventable causes.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Cardoso [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

The Graham/Cassidy repeal of the Affordable Care Act is an insult to every American. All Americans deserve quality healthcare. This bill makes it very likely that won't be available to the most vulnerable of us.

I respectfully ask you to vote no, America will remember this moment.

Thank you,

Lauren Cardoso

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lana Karhu <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on Graham-Cassidy

Preserve and strengthen the Affordable Care Act!

L Karhu

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bernadine Moglia [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will place many of the most vulnerable Americans at risk for losing health care coverage.

Bernadine Moglia

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: abby zilch [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT PASS...

The Graham Cassidy bill. We demand a non-partisan bill!!!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah O'Neill [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Do NOT Pass Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to beg you NOT to pass Graham-Cassidy. This is literally a matter of life or death. It affects all Americans and our quality of life.

How can you even think about passing it without expert public testimony in open hearings, without a CBO score to show us what it will cost in both money and impact on our lives, without the opportunity for full debate and amendments? How can tax cuts for those who are already rich be more important than keeping people alive and well? We must have regular order on a bill this important and we must decouple healthcare from tax cuts for the rich, which pits competing priorities that do not have anything to do with one another.

I have a dear friend who has had such a great experience with the ACA. He has good insurance that he can afford, and he needs it. You see, he has diabetes and it affects his eyes. And he needs his eyes because he is a goldsmith and his eyesight is essential to his ability to continue to run his own small business. And, because he has insurance, he can get the treatment he needs for his eyes that he needs to keep working and he can afford the medical care and drugs that keep him alive.

But my friend has told me that without the ACA he fears that he could be dead within a year and even if he lives, he will not be able to continue working. And, he is not alone. I know children with special needs who will be in peril if they lose their Medicaid. I know older people who can only afford their nursing home care they need because they have Medicaid. When did we become a country that treats the lives of Americans as if they do not matter, as if they are expendable, as if money for the rich is more important than life for the rest of us.

Please, please, please do NOT vote for this dreadful and destructive bill. Vote as if our lives literally depend on your votes. Because they do.

Thank you for considering my input.

D. O'Neill

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paolo Bautista [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: You guys can't Chang the old planes to the new one

Please Stop this we are disabled people the only has medecade and not Medicare We All thrust your people to do so our pearince have passed away we are not working We are old and Yelderly people from the age of 64-89 and we need some assistance in feeding bathing and going to shopping what if you are in our place

Sent fro my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy Bowman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medical care
Attachments: Medical Insurance199_dh.pdf

I was in business for myself in the 1990s and watched my healthcare expenses grow from under \$2000/year to over \$8000 per year from 1995 to 2009 (see attached graph). Those "In order to serve you better..." costs kept increasing. Since I had had breast cancer in 1999, I could not change programs. Qualifying for Medicare in 2010, at 65, saved me from bankruptcy. Costs have been stable since then. I love my Medicare -- it should be available to all.

This Graham-Cassidy plan is a disaster. It is not following Regular Order, isn't relying on CBO numbers, has no bipartisan agreement, doesn't protect citizens with existing health problems, decreases Medicaid and supplements for the needy.

Don't doom others to the fate I barely avoided. You can do better than this! Craft a real health care bill. You've got the brains and the expertise -- we need you on our side.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Darwin Hook [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Extremely disappointed Republican

I have supported Republican officials for years but the approach being taken to reduce medical cost is wrong. Republicans are NOT reducing the cost of medical care, they are only reducing services the MCOs will cover so the bottom line shows fewer dollars spent on medical care.

For example, thousands of adults with intellectual and cognitive disorders live as independently and SAFELY as they possibly can in supported living homes with 24 hr supervision. Under Republican initiatives to 'improve' service and reduce cost providers are no longer providing 24 support staff leaving many in unsafe unsupervised situations overnight.

PLEASE do not pass any legislation that reduces coverage levels in any way. We need legislation that preserves covered services but reduces the actual cost of the service.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew Plantz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Tami Goldsmith
Subject: hi

Good afternoon the bill that is to build that have been proposed it ran Cassidy Bill will hurt people will hurt people with disabilities play by ending the Medicare Medicaid program and there is no replacement for it and it would affect much more than the general public knows it would affect her Halloween or Medicare or Medicaid it would affect house in Medicare Medicaid and it would affect our services that we depend on the day to keep us independent and it would be cutting our lifeline for people with disabilities to be independent I respectfully request that this bill give voted voted down thank you

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Hire [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save Americans!

Do not pass this bill it puts millions at risk! Please get healthcare for all Americans! Do not keep fleecing us and padding the pockets of big business! Do the job you were elected to do!

Heather Hire

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Connie McGlone [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Im a senior citizen and at this point I support universal healthcare, or Medicare for all.

Your Graham Cassidy proposal eliminates a very important part that is currently covered with Obamacare...pre-existing conditions!!

As a senior citizen I am deeply concerned about the continued affordability of a health plan that eliminates these conditions and/or leaves the pricing of insurance premiums up to each individual state! As representatives for American Citizens are you really willing to let people (especially the elderly) be priced out of affordable healthcare?

I challenge you when it's time to vote on this new proposal, to vote with your heart and ask yourselves who is really going to benefit if it passes!! Please do the right thing!

Thank you for listening.

Connie McGlone

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher Panella [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the Record of the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I hope you realize that this bill is an absolute disgrace to the American healthcare system. I have not met one person, seen one comment online, or read one study by any medical journal written by medical professionals that defends any part of this bill. Please realize the consequences of this bill and understand that the job of Congress is to serve the American people. When the general term associated with this bill is something along the lines of "awful," then Congress is not doing its job.

Sincerely,
Christopher

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom Dickerson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on Graham/Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to this line to comment before Monday's meeting on the Graham/Cassidy bill that will remove millions of Americans from Medicaid and throw them off other coverage plans, defund Medicaid by hundreds of millions of dollars, take funds away from states that worked to set up insurance pools and accepted Medicaid expansion to help their residents and give it to states that refused to participate in the system, attack Planned parenthood and women's health, allow states to decide that people can be financially penalized for having preexisting conditions, and cause many rural hospitals to go out of business.

I strongly urge you to vote no on this bill.

It does not do what the sponsors say it will, and it will throw our whole healthcare system into turmoil.

Thank you for abandoning this bill and returning to bipartisan efforts to fix the problems with the ACA, and returning to regular order to craft legislation that is carefully considered.

Thank you,

Tom Dickerson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cecelia Haack [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on the repeal of the ACA

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The ACA saved my life from uncontrolled asthma. Since I have had affordable health insurance I can afford my asthma medications and have not had a serious asthma crises. This means the world to me.

To repeal the ACA is grossly irresponsible, the current gimmick to put some funding into block grants that punish Blue states is sad, tacky and ill advised. Reducing medicaid spending by millions will put of millions lives at risk, children and the poor, working poor, will not have access to care which will tragically result in untreated illnesses and deaths.

I cannot believe that America has been so corrupted by the thinking of Ayn Rand that we would turn our backs on the most needy of us? If we do then all I can say is shame on America for caring more about pharmaceutical and health insurance company profits than her citizens.

Thank you for your time and kind consideration.

Cordially,
Cecelia Nunn Haack
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dave Melvin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do Not Vote On The Graham - Cassidy Healthcare Bill Until The CBO Scores It

To whom it may concern,

I am contacting you regarding the Graham/Cassidy bill and its weaknesses in taking care of Americans.

Congress should not vote on this bill until the CBO scores it. This bill would affect approximately one sixth of the American economy and something with that much reach can't be taken lightly.

I am also extremely concerned that the bill allows states to weaken protection for pre-existing conditions. This will affect me personally as I am a polio survivor and suffer from post-polio syndrome. The additional costs of my future care would surely bankrupt my family if this is allowed to pass.

Reduction to Medicaid should also not be allowed as these are some of our most fragile citizens on already fixed incomes.

Some estimates say that THIRTY MILLION Americans will lose their existing coverage. This idea is patently outrageous.

The Republican leadership is being petulant by presenting this bill. It's not a carefully considered measure to improve the lives and welfare of the American people, but rather an attempt to save their seats because they don't have a worthy alternative to the ACA. They should be working together to improve the ACA with bipartisan committees and by paying close attention to what their constituents are asking for.

Thanks,

Dave Melvin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barb Pharr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare

Deathcare for Americans \$400000 for GOP ... Shame on You Senators

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

No Graham-Cassidy! Brain injured people absolutely need & rely on Medicare/Medicaid. What will happen to them when their benefits are cut? They can't work, and some cant drive. GET REAL - NO GRAHAM-CASSIDY!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My Health

I will lose all of my medical care if this bill is passed. I'm Bipolar and on SSI DISABILITY INSURANCE. I can't work and my SSI CHECK is what I try to live on. I take 4 different medications multiple times a day for my mental illness. Without these very important medications I may very well commit suicide or end up in jail as I will become out of control. I also have arthritis, a Hernia in my diaphragm which caused me to become extremely ill and had to call an ambulance to the ER. I could not breathe and was vomiting non- stop with horrific gastritis pain! I have been so scared when hearing about this Health Care Bill. I'm terrified. I'm also a senior. I'm 62 years old. My monthly check doesn't leave me any money left for food. I struggle every day to survive.

Sent from XFINITY Connect Mobile App

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trish Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to GrahamCassidy Bill

The fact that ACA is working for so many means there is no reason other than complete vindictiveness to repeal. Fix the problems that are there. Obama worked on this for many years, not just a couple of weeks. Don't kill people that need ACA!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denenberg, Julie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: senator@feinstein.senate.gov; senator@harris.senate.gov; harris@harris.senate.gov
Subject: the Graham Cassidy bill

Hello,

I understand that you are interested in what US citizens have to say about healthcare, thus I am writing to you. A few hours after my niece was born my sister needed to give permission for her new baby to be transferred to Children's Hospital in San Diego as it was determined that she had been born with problems in her aorta and her left ventricle. We were extremely lucky to have a pediatric cardiac surgeon who had trained in Philadelphia under the surgeon who invented the procedure which saved my niece's life. By the time that she was four she had three major heart surgeries and is currently living with a three chambered heart. Her father stayed at a job that he hated until he was able to find another which had health insurance that allowed her to be fully covered even though she had a pre-existing condition. Once the ACA was the law of the land, my sister was very glad since that meant that my niece could be covered by parental insurance until she was 26 and would be able to get affordable insurance thereafter even with her congenital heart condition. My niece turned 26 this May. She still gets an annual check-up at Children's Hospital. She is very lucky. Children born just a few years prior to her with the same condition typically died before age 20. If she can't afford health insurance to cover the blood thinners and other medications that she is on, she could too. With the ACA, we know she is safe; with the potential exceptions in the Graham-Cassidy proposal, we don't know if she will be able to afford the coverage that she needs.

Thank you for your consideration,

Julie Denenberg

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Gayer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill


Dear Congress people.

The proposed bill does not improve health care for all Americans. It severely damages health care options, does not protect against pre-existing conditions or lifetime caps. Americans who have serious health issues will be faced with no health care and laterally losing jobs and going bankrupt. This is unacceptable. ALL WESTERN NATIONS COVER THE HEALTHCARE NEEDS OF THEIR POPULATIONS EXCEPT FOR THE U.S.A. HOW CAN THE RICHEST NATION ON EARTH NOT PROVIDE FOR THE HEALTHCARE NEEDS OF ITS CITIZENS??!!!!

SHAME, SHAME, SHAME ON YOU!

Anna Gayer



Anna Gayer 

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Cardoso [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not take health care away- NO on Graham Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

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

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally May [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Upcoming bill vote

My family relies on quality health care and some family members have pre-existing conditions that have impeded their ability to receive care in the past.. My sister, a type 1 diabetic since the age of 5, was denied coverage for a serious kidney infection because the insurance company declared that kidney problems were a side effect of diabetes, a pre-existing condition, therefore they were not responsible for paying for her hospital stay. The financial consequences were catastrophic. My daughter has hyperhydrosis, a condition that merely causes the embarrassment of excessive sweating. It has no other effects whatsoever. She was once prescribed a special deodorant which did not work. That's it. Yet this diagnosis was considered a pre-existing condition and she was denied health insurance. She had just graduated from college and no longer qualified for the insurance offered by her school. She was over 21 so could not go on my insurance. (Clearly this was before the Affordable Care Act.) She was thus uninsured until she got her first teaching job. A visit to the urgent care department cost her over \$2000.00 for a case of strep throat, a very steep cost for a substitute teacher. She had no primary care doctor since it is very difficult to get a doctor to put you on her patient rolls when you have no insurance.

Congress has no right to health insurance unless the rest of us have that same right. You work for us. No employer on earth gives their employees health insurance while denying it to himself, so it makes no sense for Congresspeople , our employees, to have premium coverage while the citizenry, their employers, have none. Do the right thing.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Vote no on this selfish, destructive bill.

Sincerely,
Sally May

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andy Hanson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for the record- Graham Cassidy bill

After giving the military 700 billion, Republicans now want to put American lives in peril for a fraction of that. I didn't overcome alcohol addiction to be uninsurable for the rest of my life so Republicans can brag.

This bill does not help anyone except big business

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alison F. [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am a small business owner who gets my healthcare through the ACA marketplace. I also have a pre-existing condition. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I need affordable, quality healthcare and am happy with my options under the ACA. I agree there are opportunities to improve upon it, but the changes proposed under Graham-Cassidy are NOT the right changes. In fact, if enacted, they would likely cause my costs to skyrocket and could mean I end up without coverage at some point. I would like to see bipartisan efforts to improve upon the ACA, not repeal it.

Please do NOT advance the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Alison Farmer
Washington, DC (originally from Michigan)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Wetterholt [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

I would like to see a revision of the ACA NOT a repeal. I have a son with a preexisting condition; this could be devastating for him and his family. Please work across the aisle to improve the ACA.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Luton [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

I and my family, wife and two sons, depend upon affordable and good healthcare. We are paying a lot for Cobra coverage through my wife's former employer. I oppose the current Graham-Cassidy Bill that threatens the quality and cost of reliable healthcare.

I ask Congress to follow the example of Senators Alexander and Murray. Work in a bipartisan way to strengthen and fund healthcare for all.

Sincerely,
Rev. Peter J. Luton

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ana Maria Young [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Senators Graham and Cassidy,

I could list the reasons why my family would be greatly impacted should your draft legislation become law. However, I believe it is far more relevant to argue that the legislation you are proposing would be detrimental to the health of all Americans. It would negatively impact the most vulnerable members of our society, it would destabilize our economy and put America at a disadvantage globally. Fix the ACA through a bipartisan effort. Put Americans' health physically, emotionally and economically above party loyalty.

Thank you,
Ana Maria Young

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marianthe Bezzerides [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Subject: Re: Graham/Cassidy bill

Hello,

I wanted to address the Graham/Cassidy health care bill that will be voted on next week with hearings on Tuesday. I would urge every Senator that has not decided on voting "no" to consider the negative consequences of kicking millions of people off their health insurance by passing this terrible bill.

Here's my short story regarding my health insurance. I'm a small business owner and a freelance composer. I have been purchasing health insurance on the private market since 2006. It was extremely difficult to get health insurance in the first place as I was turned down by three separate companies for relatively minor pre-existing conditions. The only reason I finally got coverage was because I lied on the last application and omitted everything that I knew would cause the 4th company to turn me down. My only other option was entering into the high risk pools in CA, and there was a minimum of a 6 month waiting period. How was that supposed to make my parents feel like, if I got sick or in an accident, I wouldn't run the risk of putting them into bankruptcy? So I did the most logical thing I could think of and lied to get insurance. Had the ACA been in place, I would never have had to be in a position where I thought that was my only option. My career path and experience didn't lend me to be in a position to find insurance through a company, so I had very few options.

Fast forward to now, I've been paying for my health insurance diligently, for over 10 years. I make too much money to utilize the ACA subsidies, but that is ok with me. My deductible is high, and the rates creep up every year, but at least I have insurance. But now, for the first time since the ACA has been law, I got a notice stating that Anthem is pulling out of the exchanges because of the uncertainty in the market in California. Is this because Trump keeps threatening to not make the monthly payments to the ACA? Or is it the constant attack by Congress to "Repeal and Replace" for the umpteenth time, with worse and worse bills being put forth? Who knows, probably a combination of a lot of factors are contributing to this scenario, but it is potentially disastrous to small businesses like myself. I employ about 24 active music teachers in the Los Angeles area. If I lose my health insurance and have to close up my business, its not just my economic situation that will suffer, its a whole bunch of other people that are going to suffer economically. And I'm just addressing a small segment of my circle of people. I'm not even talking about the millions of people who will now be turned down or charged more for pre-existing conditions, who will lose the basic health benefits they've begun to count on to save their lives by early detection of diseases, or for people who have serious diseases that will reach their lifetime limits before their treatment is finished.

What about Jimmy Kimmel's baby, who would have approached his lifetime limit of coverage on a pre-ACA plan before he even left the hospital? If rejecting this bill won't align with your humanity, think about the economic consequences; the lost economic output from people who get sick and have no health coverage, the closing of small businesses that provide jobs to other Americans, the service providers that the entire country relies upon to be hampered by lack of funding to provide health care to Medicare recipients. What about my parents and the parents of my friends who may rely on Medicare?

Health insurance is definitely complicated, and there is no easy and quick answer, but gutting the ACA will have deadly consequences for millions of people. Fix the current healthcare system, don't scrap it. Millions of peoples lives are depending on this bill being struck down. Please do the right thing, not the political thing. Country over party, like Senator John McCain, Senator Susan Collins and other brave republicans are making a stand for by voting "no" on this bill.

Thank you,

Marianthe Bezzerides
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alan Chen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

I ask you to vote "NO" Graham-Cassidy health care bill. That plan is unacceptable to me. Allow me to tell my story:

First, some background: my parents are from Taiwan, a country with national health insurance that works so well that my parents regularly return to not only visit relatives and run errands but to take care of a bevy of medical, dental, and vision checkups. It is consistently cheaper to pay \$650-\$1500 to fly 6800 miles than to get the work done in the US, even though we have insurance and the clinics are no more than half an hour away. As you have probably heard before, people overseas simply cannot comprehend the state of the American health care system.

Anyways, my dad lost his job in the 2008 recession and my family had to go on COBRA for insurance. Whereas my family used to pay \$300/month to cover the entire family, my dad's COBRA premium ended up being \$300 in and of itself. It was there that I had my first (and hopefully last) encounter with the individual market. The insurance broker didn't even bother taking my dad's application because she figured there was no chance of getting anything approved because of my dad's pre-existing conditions, which can blithely be summarized as "turning 60." Thus, my dad had to shell out the aforementioned \$300.

(I should mention that my dad came to the US in 1976 and voted solid Republican in every election except in two: 1992 and 2008. In those two years, he voted to punish Republican presidents for leading the economy into a ditch. In 2012, he broke the trend and again voted Democratic. He figured the ACA was a good thing for the US).

My mom and I were able to be approved for insurance plans through the individual market. However, we were explicitly advised by the broker to leave out such egregious past medical history as arthritis (mom) and prescribed antibiotics for acne (me), lest we be denied coverage or forced to pay heavy premiums. I can't imagine what heavy those premiums that could have been, since insuring a 20-some year old male with a mundane health history still ended up costing \$78/month - a number that quickly rose to \$100/month. How does a family pay that during a recession when the dad can't find anyone who wants to hire someone who's close to retiring, and the job market for newly-minted college students is non-existent? The answer is through unemployment benefits that luckily kept being extended and dipping into savings.

Eventually, the ACA allowed me to go on MediCal, saving my family money while ensuring that we would not go bankrupt if I suffered catastrophic injury (such as being hit by a car!). Now I am employed full time, pay taxes, and gladly support programs like the one that supported me.

With gratitude,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: caltonia@gmail.com on behalf of Liz Fraley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy (MI)

I have a niece in Michigan. She suffers from schizophrenia and has a small child. As a schizophrenic, she has trouble dealing with everyday tasks and caring for her child on her own. As a result, she lives with her parents, both senior citizens, and her child's welfare is primarily in their hands. If Graham-Cassidy passes, that entire family could be at risk. Everyone in that family depends heavily on medicaid-funded services for existing conditions every day. Any cuts to those services could directly impact her child's welfare, her own, and her senior parents. Do not let Graham-Cassidy put three generations of this family in danger. Protect the vulnerable members of my family and those of many others Americans.

NO on Graham-Cassidy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Hollier <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Press, Cruz (Cruz)
Subject: Vote NO on GrahamCassidy Bill

Dear Committee:

I am voicing my concern over this new GrahamCassidy (GC for short) bill which is going to replace the ACA. I have called my senators all week to tell them to vote "No" which is hopeless for a dem. to call Cruz/Cornyn. They do only what repubs want. Dems in Tx have no representation. That's a fact.

So, I'm writing directly to you in the hope that you will consider my voice. There are many reasons why I am against GC bill. The main reason: there are no guarantees that pre-existing conditions will be a consideration under GC as it was under the ACA. Such guarantees are a life and death situation for me as I have leukemia and just finished round 5 of chemo last month. With out these types of guarantees (which the ACA mandates), I will not have or be able to maintain my health and insurance given the costs associated with cancer.

There are many poor and less fortunate who have more difficulties than I do, and the ACA, while not perfect, assisted them. Why not fix the problems with ACA? Why do you have to inflict a new plan which offers less provisions and support for people in need?

Thank you for your time and support.
Sincerely,

Dr. David R Hollier

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Melvin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE Consider

To the Senators of our nation:

Please. PLEASE. Please, do not vote to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am a stay at home mom to a beautiful 4 year old girl. My husband and I work diligently to live our best lives and provide the most that we can for our little girl on one income. Most days, its damn near impossible. There is so much that we cannot afford to pay and we have sacrificed so much in order to provide a life for our family.

I am educated; I have a bachelor's degree in economics from a private, 4-year, liberal arts university. By all standards, I've done everything "right" my entire adult life: I've worked hard, I've paid taxes, I've bettered myself through education. I've worked my way up and contributed to the economy in every way that I "should" have.

That is, until I became a mother and gave up my job. And until I was diagnosed with a genetic syndrome that leaves me pre-disposed to developing certain types of cancer. Two giant things that would turn into "pre-existing" conditions.... and essentially bankrupt my one-income family.

Please. Don't punish my family for these things that are out of my control. Don't leave us with higher healthcare costs with this new bill.

I can't tell you that I have the answer to the healthcare debate, but I know FOR SURE that this bill isn't it.

Godspeed,
Kate Melvin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Lawrence [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham Cassidy

To Senate Finance Committee:

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Plan. The rush to pass this bill means no one will have a chance to understand it or to offer amendments of any substance. It's inconceivable that there are any will support a bill that is this mean-spirited.

L. Lawrence

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Luz Intintoli [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Preexisting conditions

New HC bill will leave people like my husband and millions of people to die because we won't be able to afford premiums. He's alive because of the great insurance we had through my employer. New bill will leave us in the hands of insurance companies and their greed. We're both retired now and on fixed income. How can we possibly afford Health Insurance with this bill?

Please help! We elect our senators to help us not to hurt us

Thank you
Luz Intintoli

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Bannister [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: We can do better

My husband was diagnosed with a benign brain tumor just months after we were married. The "in sickness and in health" really kicked in fast for us. It was such a relief that it was benign, the problem was what happened next.

With the support of a neurologist, a gastroenterologist, a rheumatologist, and a cardiologist, he's able to live a productive life as he copes with his medical conditions. He doesn't need to see them often but their help he can lead an almost normal life.

I'm telling you this because if his medical plan did not allow for pre-existing conditions we would be bankrupt. We would be living with family members or homeless. When he went to new doctors first he heard "what's your name and contact info" and then, "what's your medical insurer". For a while I refused to change jobs because I didn't know what the new medical plan was and worried that asking questions would adversely affect my employment. I couldn't be unemployed without insurance.

I know the proposed law leaves it up to states but what if the state we live in decides insurers don't have to cover pre-existing conditions and their patch to fix that decision doesn't cover our costs? or requires lots of paperwork (don't get me started on THAT problem)? or there's a delay in getting approved and reimbursed?

We can do better with the health of so many of our fragile citizens, our chronically ill, and our elderly at stake.

Thank you for reading all this,

Barbara Bannister

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Nell Minow and all of the senate, VOTE NO ON THIS BILL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Beavon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham Cassidy!

My sisters life will probably depend on this. How many other millions? NO!

Holly Beavon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tara Felder [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Your conscience

I'm sure you are getting millions of emails so I'll keep it short... money over human life. Are you willing to go to hell? Do you actually sleep at night? Being a good person really isn't difficult. This world is a mess already. Would be really nice if health care would be the last thing on our minds.

-tara

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

This bill will hurt millions of your constituents with pre-existing conditions ... roughly half the population has a pre-existing condition.

Many of them cannot work full-time and therefore are not eligible for employer-subsidized insurance. Yet, because they are not working full-time, they cannot afford higher premiums assessed because of pre-existing conditions.

Before Obamacare, I checked into my state's high risk pool, and the premiums were more than my part-time income. Not just "more than I could afford" but "more than I earned" leaving nothing for shelter, food, electric, or anything else. Yet, my income was too high to qualify for Medicaid/MediCal.

When people with health problems cannot afford health insurance premiums, they begin to look for other ways to get insurance. Such as applying for Disability so they can get Medicare. You're going to remove a lot of people from the workforce who can only get healthcare if they go on Disability. Don't then complain about the number of people on Disability, if you've taken away their only method of buying health insurance themselves.

Karen M. Campbell

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ec Carstens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy vs. ACA

I nearly died at the age of 14 because my family was poor and had no health insurance. Years later I still get emotional about what happened. No child should feel like they are being left to rot. And I did rot. My tonsils filled with puss, turned black, and rotted in my throat. I should have been in the hospital, but instead for six weeks I lay in my bed with a box fan shoved in the window to blow in the heat of a Georgia summer. I couldn't swallow well, so I couldn't eat. I couldn't swallow well, so I could barely drink. Sometimes I couldn't breathe. My body shriveled and stank.

This is what happens when families can't afford appropriate care. This is what happens when families don't have insurance. This is what happens when poor families feel their only choice is to hope for the best. This is what happens when adults let children down. This is why I support the ACA and believe bipartisan efforts are needed to fix it.

EC Carstens

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Covici <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy HC Bill

I'm writing to beg you to please please please do not approve this horrible plan! Whatever happened to the Republican Party who was conservative, but not so horribly mean, and uncaring, as well as being mindful that there are real people living in this country that aren't rich.

I have three of what the ins companies will call "previous conditions." I just can't afford to pay more!

Never give up...Just rest awhile

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Palmer Kane [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,
I am writing to implore you in the strongest possible terms to vote against the Graham Cassidy Bill to repeal the ACA. As the parent of young adult with a life-threatening disability, this bill would have devastating consequences for her and millions of people like her. It is not an exaggeration to say that this bill could cost her her life! Again, please vote NO!

Lori Palmer Kane
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The information in, or documents attached to, this e-mail contain confidential information. The information is the property of the sender and intended only for use by the individual or entity named above. The recipient of this information is prohibited from disclosing the contents of the information to another party. If you are neither the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivery to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that disclosure of contents in any manner is strictly prohibited. Please notify Lori at Lake County Center for Independent Living by calling 847-949-4440 immediately if you received this information in error.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barb Hash [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: testimony on the Graham-Cassidy health care bill

Please do not cut Medicaid benefits. My husband and I are raising our grandchildren. We need this for them!
Barb Hash
Vermont

Sent from my iPhone
Barb Hash

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joel Abrams [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy will hurt our country - Protect Medicaid

Dear Senators,

We can't solve our country's many healthcare problems by reducing funding without contemplating the consequences. While a block grant is in principle a good idea, if it is not adequately funded, it will take away vital care from children, adults with disabilities, and working people across our country.

If you wish to fix the unfairnesses and inefficiencies of the ACA, changing from nationwide standards to 50 states setting their own standards (and struggling to pay for their citizens' care), is not the way to do it. This would devastate the state budget for health care here in Massachusetts, and in many states, blue AND red. I urge you to oppose this proposal.

Thank you,
Joel Abrams
Lexington, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Recklessness

This new plan is reckless and against the American people. Please grow a heart and keep those in need insured. I can guarantee it's cheaper to be covered than receiving your healthcare through the ER.

Kelley Rieser RN

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patty Ngara [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy-Heller

30 million will lose healthcare and EHB's don't have to covered. There is no debate scheduled, no CBO score and no one has seen the Bill.

The Senate must return to regular order on this and every bill.

Thank you,

Patricia Ngara
Chelsea, ME
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanne Joiner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do Not Repeal the Affordable Care Act

Members of my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is primarily about my nephew and good friend. He died last year at the age of 55 from stage 4 liver cancer. He was a hard working guy, a devoted family man, and a devout Christian who volunteered his time and talent for his church. Yet he did not have a job that provided healthcare after he was downsized from his 14 year job. After that he never made enough to afford private insurance. But he made too much to qualify for Medicaid. Thanks to FLORIDA the Medicaid expansion of the ACA did not help. By the time he went to the ER it was too late. He died 7 weeks later. If he had insurance they would have picked this up in its early stage. From an expense pinpoint of view it would have cost a lot less than his 7 weeks in a hospital in critical care with no ability to pay. Healthcare is about real people with real love ones, friends & family. Their care should not be based their ability to pay. It should not be a privilege. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act, not repeal it. Better yet work together to implement Medicare for all.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Joiner
Ocala, FL

Thank you!

Jeanne Joiner [REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ed Frim [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Proposal

I have worked as inclusion specialist for the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, representing more than 600 congregations across the U.S. We have worked hard to make our institutions inclusive of people with disabilities and in general. Those I have worked with have grave concerns about the latest health care proposal from Senators Graham and Cassidy.

- The proposed per-capita cap on Medicaid would devastate institutions supported the disabled, and the millions of people that depend on them.
- It rolls back protections for Americans with pre-existing conditions_
- Leaves many more veterans uninsured
- Children n some states, including my home state of Pennsylvania, are at immediate risk of losing coverage
- People over the age of 50 can be charged an unlimited amount for coverage

Finally, bill sponsors are seeking to pass it without a complete analysis of its impacts-including how many will lose coverage or the increase in premiums.We believe that:

1. Healthcare coverage should be affordable, attainable and adequate to meet the health needs of children, families and individuals
2. Medicaid is critical to families and communities. Currently, Medicaid provides comprehensive and affordable healthcare coverage to tens of Millions who would otherwise go uninsured. These include our most vulnerable populations: children, seniors and people with disabilities.
3. Medicaid protects working families from financial hardships and ensures their children have healthcare to remain healthy and have the opportunity to succeed in school.

This proposal would severely impact hundreds of thousands in our community of congregations, as well as millions more of our fellow citizens.

The sponsors of bills with this type of impact should take the time needed to fully understand the decisions that they are making.

Thank you for your consideration,

Edward Frim
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

As a Registered Nurse, I am deeply concerned about the potential impacts of the Graham Cassidy Bill. If this bill passed it would cause real and lasting damage to millions of Americans.

I work in high risk OB, and this bill will hurt my patients and their families.

We are in the midst of an opioid crisis, and I am seeing an increasing number of babies born addicted to opioids. This bill would cut funding for addiction treatment, leading to a worsening crisis, and fewer resources to provide care for its smallest, most vulnerable victims.

My hospital also cares for the most high-risk pregnancies. We care for women who have diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer, congenital cardiac anomalies. Under Graham Cassidy, many of these women would be denied or priced out insurance due to their preexisting conditions. Many of them require at least twice weekly OB visits, if not week to month-long in-patient stays to safely remain pregnant. Without the protections of the ACA in place, these women could face bankruptcy or be dependent on charity care (which would in turn tax the resources of my hospital). The US has the worst maternal outcomes of any developed nation. Making it harder and more expensive to access safe maternity care will only worsen our maternal death rate.

Finally, because we are a high-risk, tertiary care center, many of the babies born at my hospital are either born premature or have congenital anomalies. These babies, through no fault of their own, have been born with preexisting conditions. Their care frequently costs hundreds of thousands of dollars in their first year, and many qualify for Medicare based on the continued cost of their complex medical needs. These babies and their families should not suffer because of politics.

All of the major nursing, medical, and patient advocacy organizations have spoken out against this bill. It would be a terrible thing for the American People if it were to pass.

Sincerely,
Julia Kase

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelsey Skomer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Senate Financial Committee,

It is abhorrently irresponsible that Senators Graham and Cassidy are trying to ram this terrible bill through with only 90 seconds of debate. It only proves what I am quickly learning: that the Republican party is only in this for themselves. They don't care about the millions of people that this would rip healthcare away from. They are only trying to pass this through because for 8 years, they were saying that they would get rid of the ACA. And now, after failing multiple times, instead of trying to work with their fellow lawmakers, they continue to ignore any voice but their own. They are trying to pass this law for the sole and petty reason that they did it; without considering what a massive hole that this would make in not only our economy, but the lives, health, and wellbeing of so many American citizens.

I am a young woman trying to plan for a future. I want the Republican men who have created this horrid abomination of a bill to explain to me why I should support their constant efforts to rip my freedoms from me. I will not support you. I never will.

Senators, I implore you to take a step back, open your eyes, and do the right thing. Do not try to ram this bill through. It is irresponsible and harmful and only does good to try to settle a years-long grudge. I expect more from our elected officials. Shame on you.

Sincerely,
Kelsey Victoria Skomer

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vicki Geissinger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Re: Hearing on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Sept 25, 2017 at 2pm

I urge the Committee to reject the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. This bill is bad politics and bad policy.

How can you support a bill affecting a major sector of the US economy without a CBO score?

How can you support a bill that independent researchers say will cause 32 million Americans to lose their health insurance? Can you stop for a moment to think about the fear, pain and anguish this will cause?

How can you support a bill that will cause the number of personal bankruptcies to rebound to pre-ACA levels as families spend everything they have, and more, to try and save someone they love? Can you stop for a moment to think about the pain this will cause?

How can you support a healthcare bill opposed by virtually ALL major organizations of doctors, hospitals, nurses and consumers?

How can you support a healthcare bill opposed by the Medicaid Directors of ALL 50 STATES?

How can you support a supposedly pro-industry bill opposed by even AHIP and Blue Cross?

And finally, how can you support a bill that can only be a pyrrhic victory for the GOP? To paraphrase Joe Manchin, *They don't know how they got insurance ... but they will know who took it away.*

Please, reject the Graham-Cassidy proposal and support a bipartisan bill to stabilize the insurance market. Thirty-two million of us will thank you.

Victoria A. Geissinger
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against Graham Cassidy

Hello,

My name is Matthew and I live in Alabama. Graham-Cassidy poses a threat to many of my friends' and family members' ability to purchase health insurance. Please don't send this to the floor.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Garru T. [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The elephant in the room- why health care is on the chopping block, the DOD is out of control

Dear Senators

This career nurse knows that if you'all had the guts to cut the DOD budget there would be plenty of money health care. ...and we citizens would be spared all these theatrics.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dina Murray [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Lindsay Cassidy Healthcare Proposal

I am a 55 year old human resource administrator that has helped manage and enroll employees into company insurance policies. Furthermore, I have had insurance included in my salary at every job I've had since I was 16 years old. That's eight different companies. It was a standard in my profession. That is no longer the case. Prior to Obamacare, health insurance rates steadily increased. Companies, in an effort to offer some level of coverage, tried different options such as higher deductibles. A \$100 deductible was standard when I entered the workforce, then they started going up to \$250, \$500, \$1500 and now I have a \$6500 deductible, and that's on the low end. Companies also reduced coverage, excluded spouses and/or family members, and so on, until companies just couldn't afford to offer it any longer. Which is where we are today. And now the GOP proposals would make this situation far, far worse. I make \$65K per year and for the first time in my life I am seriously considering opting out of having health insurance if my rates go up one penny during this next renewal. This at a time in my life that I am most at risk. My current policy premium is \$486/month with a \$6500 deductible. Basically I'm spending 20% of my income before I even get \$1 worth of health services. This is not feasible.

Prior to Obamacare, and likely the reason for insurance reform discussions under Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, is when the rates, coverage and deductibles were just beginning to get out of hand. Something needed to be done to make healthcare affordable for all American citizens. That was the promise of Obamacare and any reforms in this arena, but of course, bi-partisan disagreements and politics got in the way and the GOP was hell bent on protecting their corporate donor's interests and without regard to what the American people needed. Now we have this mess. The last thing we need to do is make it far worse by passing some half assed, ill planned, saving face proposal like the three that the GOP has offered up as feasible. Let's stop playing games with the American people's livelihoods and do the work that needs to be done in the best interest of one group, the American people. This cost must be shared fairly and equally by all Americans, rich or poor. Stop trying to sell the people on BS like huge tax cuts for the wealthiest people in order to benefit the masses. We've already seen that plan fail under Ronald Regan and we need congress and the president to do their jobs, and that is support the needs of the majority. In no way does this include corporations and the wealthiest people getting taken care of first.

Please vote no on the Lindsay-Cassidy Healthcare debacle and pass a tax reform with the majority of tax payers in mind. The wealthy need to pay their fair share, as do the churches and pastors. Tax money goes to help everyone and nobody should be exempt. If we can all pay a reasonable percentage, it becomes affordable for everyone.

Thanks for listening and acting on the opinions of the American people.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kris [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am against this ridiculous bill to take health care away from millions. What is wrong with these people? Please take health care away from everyone of our government officials and give them the same choices as the rest of the people in our country.

--
Kris Kruid

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Williams DCN [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Must Be Stopped

Sirs/Madams:

When you can find a state that can handily exclude anyone who has a pre-existing condition from the ability to purchase insurance at a reasonable rate, then perhaps this fantasy bill would make sense. But there is no such state. There are states that will welcome these block grants that can so easily be misused and mismanaged. But they will NOT insure the reasonable opportunity of their people to procure meaningful insurance at a price that won't rob them of any quality of life. This bill must not go forward. There is not even a CBO score for it and there won't be one before the Republicans are demanding a vote. That is not good governance. That is stacking the deck to get something through that will appeal to political donors. Have we simply stopped being America?

David & Carol Wms.

"The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened."
- John F. Kennedy



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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The ACA v Graham/Cassidy

Dear Senators,

You cannot in good faith repeal the ACA. It is time to stop trying to rip healthcare away from many of the citizens of the US to give a few a ridiculously huge tax break. Look at the polls, the Republican Party did their best to bad mouth the Obamacare, and when many found out the ACA was the same as Obamacare they realized they want the ACA and they want you to support it and make it better. Healthcare should be a human right, not just the right of the wealthy.

I am healthcare provider and any republican who vote for Graham/Cassidy has no morals. Shame on you if you vote yes. Shame. Senator Graham you especially should be embarrassed, quit kowtowing to your wealthy donors. Do the right thing and retract this bill.

Vote no on the Graham Cassidy bill.

Thank you!

Renée Dickey

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Siobhan Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

Good morning,

I would like to submit my opposition to the latest ACA repeal attempt. My husband and I both utilize mental health services, and are prescription medicines, and without the essential benefits such as mental health care, and prescription benefits, we could very likely be priced out of medications we need daily. And, of course, because of these conditions and the fact pre-existing conditions would not enjoy the same protections, we could be priced out of insurance completely.

I am blessed with good insurance through my employer, but I know that may not always be the case, and I know there are many without that privilege. But access to life saving services and medications should not put Americans in to debt. Healthcare should not be a privilege.

Thank you,
Siobhan Miller

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tony Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

I and my clients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As an older man I have grave concerns about how this bill would affect my insurance payments in the future, potentially making them unaffordable. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please listen to the American people and their needs regarding healthcare coverage.

Sincerely,
Tony Davis, LMFT

[REDACTED]
"Relationship Therapy for Couples and Individuals"
MFC# 81838

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Della Valle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

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

My sister in law was diagnosed with atrial fibrillation leading to heart failure before Obamacare and Medicare provided healthcare coverage for me. No insurance company would provide coverage and she was forced to pay out of pocket for doctors' visits, surgery and ongoing medications. She is not alone! Americans deserve affordable well managed healthcare coverage.

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

With hope,

Lisa Della Valle

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maryanne Loscalzo [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:12 PM
To: David Brevitz
Cc: gchcomments; Jennie Brevitz; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: A HUGE Thumbs Down on Graham Cassidy

Excellent letter!!! Well said and your passion is contagious!!! After my struggle with my mom's Medicaid, I can only imagine the problems to come if this bill is passed.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 22, 2017, at 2:51 PM, David Brevitz [REDACTED] wrote:

I VOTE. I follow civic, political and policy issues closely. I am 61 years old, and I have never written to Congress or my Congressmen before, but I have never been so OUTRAGED in my life over what Senate Republicans are doing to the healthcare system!! Graham Cassidy is an utter outrage and disgrace, and is being pushed out of order and for NO VALID policy reason at all.

I understand that the Senate Finance Committee has a hastily called meeting for Monday September 25th on the Graham-Cassidy "Get Rid of ObamaCare" bill. This is a farcical attempt to make it look like this terrible bill is being considered via "regular order" – which traditionally means collection of evidence and information via staff research and public testimony, working out IN COMMITTEES policy issues and concerns, considering "all" ramifications of legislative language and action, drafting legislative language in light of these learnings and policies, debating same in relevant committees, and only once committees have cleared the legislation is it brought to the floor of the Senate. Ramifications of the legislation are considered IN COMMITTEE including via evaluation of the scoring and analysis conducted by the Congressional Budget Office – a NON-PARTISAN part of Congress. It is an OUTRAGE that the Senate is ramrodding this bill without knowing or considering CBO scoring and analysis, and without ANY public testimony in committees, inside of a very few weeks! But who am I to tell the Senate and its members and staff about "regular order"? The Senate Republicans know full well what they are doing, and it is driven by the big money donors who haven't gotten "anything" this session they have paid for with their big money donations. Millions and millions of regular working, middle class Americans are going to be BADLY hurt by this bill – it is an OUTRAGE that the Senate is ramrodding this bill without due deliberation in "regular order" to satisfy angry big money donors. What is wrong with our political system that millions and millions of regular Americans have to be this concerned about their health care being totally disrupted?

It is commonly understood that health-care is fully ONE-SIXTH of the US economy. It is an OUTRAGE that the Senate is even considering this bill within the space of a very few weeks without any public testimony, REAL committee hearings (not this late farcical attempt to feign "regular order"), or CBO analysis and scoring. This abrupt, rushed bill will significantly disrupt and destabilize health care and health insurance across the country, resulting in chaos among consumers and providers. Those with limited resources, i.e., rural areas and millions and millions of Americans who are not wealthy political donors, will suffer the most – both financially and health-wise. Who will pick up the pieces? A huge and completely unnecessary burden is placed on the states. The impact on jobs can't help but be detrimental.

Doctors, patients, hospitals, patient providers groups, health care foundations, insurance companies, EVERYONE is against this bill! The National Association of Medicaid Directors has come out unanimously – all 50 states! – against this bill, the first time they have been unanimous on an issue. From the American Cancer Association, American Heart Association, the American Diabetes Association, AARP, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, all down the line, ALL OPPOSE this bill. What organization or group in the health care or insurance fields are for it? I have looked and I cannot find a single health care or insurance organization that favors this outrageous bill. There is a reason there are no organizations publicly supporting the bill. The bill has no valid public policy purpose or underpinning and there was no “regular order” where proponents would have to stand up and testify in committee! This bill is purely political desperation jammed against a black and white deadline of September 30th.

Most frightening to me is how this bill if passed would expose my family, my friends, and myself to unaffordable health insurance. It is an OUTRAGE to remove requirements that preexisting conditions be covered by insurance policies. Everyone I know has one preexisting condition or another, under the definitions in the bill, for which they would have no insurance protection. My children can't even bring me more grandchildren without paying tens of thousands of dollars!! I am generally healthy, but I have preexisting conditions for which I would not be able to afford necessary treatments in the event of a problem. It is an OUTRAGE that this bill ramrodded over a very few weeks would deprive all Americans of affordable insurance coverage for preexisting conditions!

I agree with Jimmy Kimmel – Senator Cassidy lied when he said this bill meets the “Jimmy Kimmel test”. It clearly does not. Senators Graham and Cassidy should be embarrassed and ashamed to have attached their names to this OUTRAGE. Anyone in Congress that votes for this debacle of a bill will have my active, vocal and unending opposition to their reelection or continuing in office. The vote on Graham Cassidy matters to millions and millions of Americans, and a vote for it disqualifies any Senator from being reelected and continuing in office. I VOTE.



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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: no to repeal & replace

Reform You are smart come up with another plan.
Work with Dems. to fix this mess.

Don't d [REDACTED] us all because you made a deal with the devil.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Lawes [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

To whom it may concern,

Please act responsibly on behalf of Americans. As a citizen I oppose the Graham/Cassidy bill. It would be a travesty to go backwards. Instead I support moving forward with a bipartisan effort to protect and improve the progress that has been made through the ACA. Americans need to be assured that the government has their back. If you've ever had a family member or loved one with a bad diagnosis you know what I am talking about. It is difficult enough emotionally without worrying about how to qualify for treatment. EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO AFFordable Healthcare!

Please don't gut the ACA. My family along with millions of families across America are counting on our representatives to act responsibly. JUST SUPPOSE THE ACA WAS TWEAKED and becomes successful under bipartisan efforts. Medicaid, pre-existing conditions and people with disabilities should not be left hung out to dry.

We the citizens are counting on you to act humanely. I remain,

Sincerely,
Kate Lawes

In closing, I APPOSE THE GrahamCassidy bill.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susanne [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT PASS THIS BILL

To Whom it May Concern:

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is a shameful example of a bill. It will not help people. It will revoke and restrict access to healthcare to millions of people in the US.

SHAME on the GOP for not acknowledging the benefits that ObamaCare/Affordable Care Act has had on Americans. There may be improvement to be made to ACA but your shameful example of a bill is not.

Yours,
Susanne Marczak
American Citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daniela Turner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote against Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee

This country needs so many things.

Let's start with the basic that our new healthcare legislation needs:

- We need a bipartisanship
- We need a CBO score
- We need healthcare for women, children and those with pre-existing conditions
- We need healthcare outreach for addicts

Instead of providing this country with protection, instead of investing in our present and future the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill offers us caos.

The price is too high

Please reject the Graham-Cassidy bill

Sincerely,
Daniela Bartolini-Pigli Turner
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: find another way

Don't You are smart you can find another way.
Please do the right thing for the American people.
I do understand what is happening and why.
You are smart you can find another way.

Please don't take make healthcare for millions away.

PLEASE!!!

Paula Frantz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I Need Health Care

Don't repeal Affordable Care
I Do understand what is happening and why.
The GOP is better than this. Don't sell the American people out.
Stop

STOP and do the right thing

Paula Frantz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Neill Barber [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

As a physician I am horrified about this bill, what are they thinking, the poor will be dying, the rich will be richer,
Please do everything in your power to make sure this dose not pass

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: S Oliver <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Repeal Bill

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to state my opposition to the above referenced bill that will leave millions of Americans uninsured. It is despicable in every way. It is unconscionable that the government decide who is worthy to live or die.

I respectfully request a no vote on the above referenced bill.

Simone Oliver
It's a New Day!

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Topich [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Heather Topich
Mechanicsville, VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Allyson Lazar
Boston, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Charles [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy comments

Responsible legislators would not gut Medicaid, or try to reform healthcare as block grants to states, without first holding hearings on downstream impacts and having a CBO score in hand.

Responsible legislators would not throw insurance markets into disarray this late in the year or try to sabotage ACA enrollment this close to the enrollment window.

Instead of rushing a bill through, take time to do it right, and get all the right stakeholders at the table. This is what we expect from our elected representatives: thoughtful and appropriately analytical bipartisan work.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Arnold [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I had two sisters with mental illness. Both of them died because they could not get access to the adequate healthcare they needed because our current system does not do enough to understand and care for the mentally ill. I am lucky that I do not share this same disease. But I could develop any other disease at any time, as could my spouse. We live in a country with the best medical care on the planet, all of our citizens should be able to benefit from it.

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

Sincerely,

Lisa Arnold
Lowell, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Hearing

My name is Shyla Patera. I live in Great Falls Montana and work for North Central Independent Living Services, Inc. in Black Eagle, Montana. I urge you to oppose Graham, Cassidy, Heller, and Johnson as well as any cuts, caps, or block grants for Medicaid in any form. I am a Montanan with disabilities who has benefited from Medicaid Home and Community Based Services especially the current community first choice program throughout my lifetime. I attended and earn a bachelor of arts and political science from Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana in 1993. I have worked throughout my lifetime and both Montana and Pennsylvania in a series of both part-time and full-time jobs. I have a fiancé/partner who also has a disability. I am also a community volunteer and independent living specialist.

On behalf of myself, my consumers and others they utilize Medicaid I ask the Senate Finance Committee to ponder several questions: The first question is how do we as Americans who utilize health care value disability independence and the ability to live, work and play in our communities rather than nursing homes? People with disabilities and seniors want to live in our homes not nursing homes or institutions. If this version or any version of ACA repeal passes, are the members of the Senate finance committee and congress going to make private insurance pay comparable monies and rates and offer comparable service packages for programs and services across all H CBS waivers so that people with disabilities and medical conditions can receive coverage for services that many currently receive in order to maintain independence? Many of those that I work with also have benefited from Medicaid expansion in Montana. They often identify as having mental health issues or other invisible disabilities. How will the passage of Cassidy, Graham, Heller, Johnson impact rural areas in question? Thank you for allowing me to submit my questions and testimony regarding how important Medicaid is for many with disabilities in the United States and American territories.

Shyla Patera
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jamie Levine Daniel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

Please vote against Graham-Cassidy, if not for because of content, then because of process (or lack thereof).

I am fortunate to get health care through work, and to have my family on my plan. My husband has a preexisting condition. He was only covered in the past because of the ACA, and is one example of the multitude of people with preexisting conditions, disabilities, and/or current conditions that make them vulnerable.

This bill is similar to the others of its ilk, with potentially catastrophic health effects for 32 million people. If I lose my job, he could be one of them.

More than that, continued efforts in this area mean other policy work gets ignored. Additionally, governing norms are ignored and citizen voices are stifled. One finance committee hearing, without a CBO score, does not represent regular order. Constituents and courts have spoken many times. It is way past time to stop these repeal/replace efforts.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Jamie Levine Daniel
Indianapolis, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Stern [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Elizabeth Stern
Colorado Springs, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham- Cassidy healthcare bill

Dear Sirs / Madam :

I am writing to urge you to oppose this proposed bill. Those pushing this proposal are not being honest with us and they are using semantics to confuse people and manipulate them on the issue of pre-existing conditions. The truth is that whether pre-existing conditions are covered or not will depend on what state you live in because governors will get to request waivers and apparently do not have to provide demonstrable proof that residents with pre-existing conditions will be covered at affordable rates. Senator Mc Cain has been blessed with being able to receive the best available care for his brain cancer treatment without having to be concerned about whether he can afford it or if he will suffer financial difficulties as a result of getting the treatment he needs. NO American should have to deal with decisions about whether they can afford needed treatment. Additionally, governors will also get to decide what other "basic " care will be provided. Healthcare coverage should not be subjected to the political whims of governors or legislatures as this proposed bill allows them to decide whether or not to cover services such as addiction and mental health treatment or maternity care or ER care or prescription coverage. None of this is right. The kind of care that is covered should not vary from state to state, in the name of freedom. I live in Maryland ; our state accepted expanded Medicaid and made a concerted effort to get as many residents as possible enrolled in the ACA. The proposed changes would result in a loss of multi-billion dollars in Maryland., and even our Republican Governor opposes this proposed plan ! Another grossly unfair component is taking money from states like Maryland and giving it to states that did not expand Medicaid or push to get people signed up for the ACA, thus rewarding irresponsible actions.

Another objection I have to this proposal is the way that it changes Medicaid which provides medical care for our most vulnerable citizens---the economically challenged, disabled, elderly in nursing homes, single parents. This is not what this country is all about---we help those who need help without imposing a per capita cap.

I also have to say that I find it both disingenuous and infuriating to know that some GOP Senators are attempting to bribe senators , especially Lisa Murkowski, in order to sway their votes.

I truly believe that lives will be lost if this bill passes, as many millions of Americans will not have access to affordable care . We will see more people going to ERs for treatment of some conditions which will increase the cost of care for all of us. Not to mention that some conditions, like cancer can not be handled in an emergency room. In general, this proposed bill indicates to me that we are losing our way as a country.

The ACA is not perfect, and instead of "throwing the baby out with the bath water", Democrats and Republicans should be sitting down together to have honest conversations about finding ways to fix what is not working. Normal Senate procedures should be adhered to, including getting a full report from the CBO and having open committee hearings. How this is being handled is embarrassing and shows complete disregard for the impact on many citizens.

I hope that you will read my email and decide to oppose this bill that will not benefit us, your constituents.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joanne Masopust

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please improve the ACA, don't repeal it

My name is Risa Goldman and I am from Harvard Massachusetts -- [REDACTED] While I know that the ACA isn't perfect, I believe it can be fixed through a bi-partisan effort. Repealing it would hurt millions of Americans and would devastate our healthcare system.

Thank you,
Risa Goldman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Adkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Kill the Bill

No vote without a CBO score. We want regular order and bipartisanship. Fix healthcare, not take Medicaid away so you can give tax breaks to the rich!

Sent from my iPhone- Wilma Carol Adkins MSW/LISW-S

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marisa Raymond [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My opinion about Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a Colorado voter, I urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy health bill.

As a genetic counselor, I work with families who suffer from genetic diseases - through no fault of their own, just an unlucky flip of the proverbial coin. Prior to the passage of the Affordable Care Act, these families often quickly reached the lifetime caps on insurance set by their insurers. For some, they reached their lifetime caps within a single year! Parents with were filled with anxiety that their children would grow up and be uninsurable because of their pre-existing condition. We frequently would have to counsel families on how to apply for Medicaid to cover the continuing costs, which could exceed hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for medications alone. These are the families that were saved by the Affordable Care Act.

I am not saying the Affordable Care Act is perfect. There are still many problems across the board. And I do not argue that, for healthy individuals, premiums have skyrocketed as a result. But, the goal of insurance is to have part of the group subsidize the ones who need the funds. With car insurance, people who have never been in an accident continue to pay for coverage which goes to fund the companies's payouts for people who get into a fender-bender or worse. Because, one day, they may have an accident too and they will need those funds. That is the definition of insurance. In health insurance, healthy people subsidize sick people through their premiums because, one day, they too may become ill.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will do even more harm than the Affordable Care Act. In rolling back the protections on pre-existing conditions, in cutting Medicaid expansion funding, in allowing insurers to bring back lifetime caps, more people will be forced to pay the high costs associated with healthcare in the United States. Many people will lose their coverage and face the risks of medical bankruptcy. And many of these people will be in this position through zero fault of their own but because they have a child born with a heart condition like Jimmy Kimmel's son or because they are diagnosed with cancer (which will happen to 1 in 2 Americans in their lifetime).

That is why so many individual citizens, medical professionals, insurance companies, and healthcare administrators (including current and former state insurance commissioners) are against the Graham-Cassidy bill.

For those reasons, as well as many others, I urge you to stop the Graham-Cassidy bill before it can do more harm. And urge you to continue to work on fixing healthcare in America through bipartisan debate and regular order.

Sincerely, Marisa Raymond
Boulder, CO 80303

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Jackson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Your name]
[City, State]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Fortel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Your name]
[City, State]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Raffaella Mueller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Raffaella Mueller
Wooster, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bob Killian [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

An advanced society depends on quality, affordable healthcare. That quality in America is assured by the essential elements built into the ACA. The mandatory inclusion of safeguards should be non-negotiable.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Making "no lifetime limits" and "maternity coverage" and "no exclusion for pre-existing conditions" optional at the mercy of state legislators is a giant step backwards.

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

Sincerely,

**Bob Killian
Cornelius NC**

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

It is also WRONG to push through a bill that will effect 1/6th of our economy outside of regular order.

You serve at the pleasure of the citizens of this country; 76% of us do not want this bill to pass.

You MUST reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller.

Sincerely,

Gail Boska
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angela C Beard [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is that of my adopted brother, who was neglected by his biological mother to the point where he has permanent hearing issues, never learned to speak, suffered from untreated cerebral palsy and needs mental and physical care on a regular basis. My family adopted him but counts on Medicaid to help with the costs of his treatment. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Angela Beard

Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mercury Schroeppel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I STRONGLY OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL!

I work for myself. I am a successful database engineer. I make much more money and have much more freedom than I would working on salary. I have complete responsibility for the quality of my work and the effort I put in. If I don't feel well, I have to ask myself if I'm so sick that I can stand to lose \$1,000 dollars. That's quite motivating

I am also a middle-aged woman with a family history of diabetes, mental illness and heart disease. While I am physically healthy, I had have had intermittent struggles with depression and anxiety, so I take anti-depressants and anti-anxiety medication daily. I have accepted that I will need to take them for the rest of my life, simply as a precaution.

The California exchanges have freed me to live and work as productively as possible. My medications are not expensive... if I have insurance. If I purchased them on my own, I would be charged thousands of dollars per month, even though the medications themselves are common and easy to make. And of course, I want the peace of mind that in the event of major illness or accident, my medical expenses would at least be covered.

I pay my taxes. Is my health insurance expensive? I don't really know. The premiums increased 20% last year, but it still seems like a good deal to me. I don't use subsidies. I'm definitely paying for myself and plenty of taxes to boot.

If the exchanges are damaged, I will need to work for a large company simply to get health insurance that covers prescription drugs. I won't even know what my costs will be until AFTER I've been hired and been able to check the company's health plan. That's crazy.

Shouldn't Republicans be empowering people like me, a hardworking taxpayer who is responsible and carries health insurance?

Please do not destroy my healthcare. Give up on repeal and replace. Voters will be happy with Reform and Reinforce.

Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: katherine hunt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I oppose the **Graham-Cassidy bill** because I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

Both my parents have pre-existing conditions and rely on Medicaid to stay in their home. I'm very concerned about what will happen to them if this bill passes.

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

Sincerely,

Kelly Hunt

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeannette Mantilla [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:59 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.

Jeannette Mantilla
Miami, FL

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan B [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

My name is Megan Babor. I am writing to you today to talk to you about the Graham Cassidy bill. If this bill passes millions of American's will be without health care and others will be hurt due to caps that will be placed on health care. My family will be one of those millions of those Americans hurt by this bill. I am a wife of a cancer survivor. My husband Jerome fought for his life back in 2003 when he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. He did 6 months of chemo and a month of radiation. He beat cancer but in the wake of that not only does he need to have yearly oncology appointments he has to go every three months for blood work as he has an issue with the thickness of his blood due to the treatment that saved his life. If his levels are high he needs to have a phlebotomy (one whole liter of blood drained) this lowers his risk of stroke and heart attack. On top of that the radiation killed his thyroid (hypothyroidism), which he needs to have monitored as well. Without the insurance he currently has he would have to forgo his life maintaining doctor visits due to not being able to afford it.

I have a son who is 14. He was just diagnosed with Asperger's Autism. He goes to bi-weekly therapy sessions to learn how to transition into adulthood. We need his Medicaid to be able keep him in his therapy. He also has been seeing Gastroenterologist for stomach acid problems. He has had an upper gi procedure. They have yet to figure out what is causing his stomach issues.

My 11yr old son has Chia Malformation. Chia Malformation is a condition where the cerebellum extends into the spinal canal. Fortunately his case is a minor one and at this point his Neurologist wants to keep a watch on how it progresses with yearly visits and MRI's. Although it could lead to him needing surgery to correct it. That would cause him to reach a lifetime cap.

My daughter is 8. When she turned 2 she was diagnosed with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis her form is called Oligo arthritis. It is attacking her ankles and also her right eye. She requires 2 different immunosuppressant medicines for her to have a "normal" childhood. For her not to lose her eyesight. With all the medical care she has already received in the last 6yrs she would be close to reaching a life cap. I don't even know how we would have been able to get her the care she has needed without the help of Medicaid. Just the one of her medicines Remicade costs up to \$2,500(not including the 4-5hrs in the hospital while it is being administered). When first starting Remicade they gave you have one infusion then have to go back in two weeks for another. Then if things go well its once a month (with no end date in sight). The first year of infusion will be roughly \$32,500. Again that's just for the infusion not what the hospital will charge to administer the infusion. That is just one part of her treatment. That doesn't cover her Rheumatology, Ophthalmology, lab work, folic acid pills,

methotrexate, and naproxen. Those are the things she need on top of just the normal pediatrician visits. This is not a disease that can be cured. She will be fighting this her whole life.

Please for the wellbeing of the American people, DO NOT pass this bill. Health care is expensive as it is right now. If this bill goes through and we lose Medicaid I honestly do not know how we would be able to survive. Even if both my husband and I worked full time we still wouldn't be able to give our kids the medical care they desperately need.

Thank you for your time,

Megan Babor

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristine Gardner [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT Repeal the Affordable Care Act

I'm not even sure how to begin this email except to beg you NOT to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Do not take away the hope of survival from hundreds of thousands of United States citizens who face a health crisis with staggering medical expenses. Do not take away services that are allowing people to survive and prosper in spite of their disability or disease. Do not take away the medical care that could save a child with a life threatening condition when their only sin is being born into poverty or to a family where every day is a financial struggle. Good healthcare should be a human right and it should be the responsibility of a nation to care for the health and well being of it's citizens.

If we fail the weakest of our citizens we have failed everyone. Please do the right thing and do not repeal the ACA.

Kristine Gardner

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan O'Hare Briggs [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote "NO" on Graham Cassidy

To the Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing today to urge you to vote "NO" on Graham Cassidy and any attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act. The ACA is far from perfect, but it was instrumental in providing a point of stability for my family when our world was otherwise thrown into chaos. My parents were each diagnosed with cancer within four months of each other. They were life long residents of Ackley, Iowa, not far from Senator Grassley's home in New Hartford. I was actually a bridesmaid in his grandson's wedding and had the pleasure of having dinner with Pat and Amanda and their kids when I was in Iowa this summer.

In April 2014 my mother was diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer, having never smoked a day in her life. It was a terminal diagnosis. She would have months left, a couple years if we were lucky. In a strange twist of fate my dad had been diagnosed with stage 4 gallbladder cancer four months prior. It felt like our world was crumbling. My happy, tight-knit little family was slipping through my fingers.

At 66, my dad was old enough to qualify for Medicare when he was forced to retire due to his cancer diagnosis and my mom was able to buy a plan on the private market (this was prior to her own diagnosis.) After Mom was diagnosed with cancer, she did not have to worry about being kicked off her plan or having her premiums jacked up thanks to the Affordable Care Act. She was able to change insurance companies during open enrollment without fear of being dropped or denied due to a preexisting condition. This period of our lives was characterized by anxiety, worry, and uncertainty about the future, but I am forever grateful there was not the added stress of mounting medical bills or fighting with an insurance company. Stress and worry about medical bills did not financially and psychologically burden my mom's last months and we were able to focus on spending time together as family and reflecting on the lifetime of memories we built together thanks to the Affordable Care Act.

The law is far from perfect. Though we have been grateful for the peace of mind the ACA has provided in our lives, my husband and I have been frustrated with the rise in our own insurance premiums and searching for plans that allow us to keep our preferred doctors. We buy our insurance on the private market as my husband is a small business owner and I work weekends as a physical therapist. I urge those in Congress to work together to fix the ACA and make it better, but please don't repeal it. I have serious concerns that Graham Cassidy would allow states to obtain waivers from the protections put in place by the ACA for those with preexisting conditions. Since the bill does not define what "adequate and affordable coverage" is, there is the risk this could return some states to the days before the ACA when those with preexisting conditions found it difficult and costly to get coverage. Americans deserve the certainty and peace of mind that comes with having access health care coverage and their access should not be determined by the state in which they live.

The path is currently being taken on healthcare reform may fulfill "campaign promises", but at what cost? Please vote "NO" on Graham Cassidy. I urge members of Congress to come together and work to make the current law better and make it work for everyone. My heart goes out to those who are currently in the position I was in 3 years ago with my family. When facing a life changing medical, Americans should not be burdened with anxiety and worry about their health insurance coverage.

Thank you,

Megan O'Hare Briggs

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KMH Hightower [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities.

Kristin Hightower
Nashville, TN

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Vinh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. One of my children has asthma. One has suffered from anxiety and depression. I want to ensure that preexisting conditions are covered should they need help as they grow older. Also, no lifetime spending caps will ensure they can afford treatments. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Vinh

Davis, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Cannon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator, Jon Tester (Tester); Sen. Steve Daines (Daines)
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Healthcare

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject subject healthcare plan proposal in favor of a bipartisan effort and subsequent bill to be developed by the Senate HELP committee.

Many millions will lose coverage entirely; pre-existing conditions are not protected; caps would likely be unrealistic; opioid treatment is wholly inadequate; and, Planned Parenthood federal funding is eliminated (to name a few of many financial negative consequences). It is evident that the elderly, disabled, sick, poor, and children will be disproportionately impacted. Disregarding the health and well-being of citizens is not an American value!

It appears that the revision put forth tonight blatantly bribes states that have withheld needed votes for passage. This bill has not been subjected to regular order, including hearings; a full CBO (and now maybe a partial due to 11th hour changes) is not available; and, all reputable medical associations and impacted industries oppose this bill. Governor Bullock, my Governor, has also registered his concerns and supports going forward in a bipartisan manner.

Legislation that affects 1/6 of our economy and impacts the health and well-being should not be thrown together to meet a deadline (reconciliation) and for the sole purposes of (1) politically undoing whatever Obama did; (2) better enabling tax "cuts" for the wealthy and creating massive windfalls for corporate entities; and, (3) ensuring continuing political donations from the Kochs, Mercers, or whoever owns individual congressional members.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Cannon
Bigfork, Montana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allan Hollander [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject the Graham-Cassidy health care bill!

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

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Finance:

Americans deserve access to affordable and high-quality health care, and it is the responsibility of the federal government to enact policies that strive towards that goal. Nothing in the provisions of the Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill, or for that matter other prior efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, suggest this is the aim of this legislation. Rather, it is a blatant plan to give vast tax cuts to the rich via the health and financial sufferings of many other Americans.

Many have and continue to enumerate the shortcomings of this bill. I will merely state a few salient points.

First, the tactics used by the Republican majority to put forth this bill mark a complete failure of democratic process. The hearings preceding passage of the Affordable Care Act lasted roughly nine months. Any legislation that would so drastically alter the health care landscape of this country as the Graham-Cassidy bill deserves equally lengthy and bipartisan consideration.

Second, the provisions in the Graham-Cassidy legislation have been universally condemned by a wide range of health care policy experts and organizations. The bill has been rejected by a long list of organizations including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Hospital Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, BlueCross BlueShield, the Academy of Pediatricians, and the AARP, among many others. Furthermore, the bipartisan National Association of Medicaid Directors, representing all 50 states, is extremely alarmed by the hasty and massive restructuring of the Medicaid program this legislation would entail.

Third, predictions of the impacts of the bill are simply horrific. It is estimated that around 32 million people would lose health care insurance within 10 years, which would translate into tens of thousands of additional deaths annually. The bill drastically reduces funding for Medicaid, which would devastate the lives of many of our most vulnerable citizens, including low-income children, elderly, and people with disabilities. Finally, the bill would severely disrupt the health insurance market and would weaken many core consumer protections such as around essential health benefits and pre-existing conditions.

For these reasons I urge the Senate to reject the Graham-Cassidy health care bill and move forward with well-considered and thoughtful bipartisan efforts to improve our Nation's health insurance system.

Sincerely yours,

Allan D. Hollander, Ph.D.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Berry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Elizabeth Berry
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Colleen Doyle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Please reject this terrible bill to protect the millions of Americans just like myself who's health and livelihood depends upon access to healthcare that works.

Colleen Doyle
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Souza [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Sincerely,

Ms Karen Souza
Brooklyn, NY

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mitch goldman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Mitch Goldman]
[Cape Elizabeth ME]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Samantha Lautman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I am lucky to have insurance through my job, and also have good health and I want my friends and family and all Americans to have access to affordable, high-quality healthcare. For this reason I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which reports say would result in fewer people being insured, premiums rising and lower quality care. I do support bipartisan efforts to further stabilize health insurance markets and improve care through the ACA.

Sincerely,
Samantha Lautman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allison Manno [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Allison Brown
Minneapolis, MN

Sent from my iPad

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: danceswithgary [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Valerie Amon
Rochester, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tara Geer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Tara Geer
New York, New York

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Douglas DeNeve [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Douglas DeNeve
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: wishin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of a bipartisan bill with open discussion. 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.

Respectfully,

BJ Wishinsky
Mountain View, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tina Rowley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My family's story

Dear sirs/madams,

I'm writing to share the importance of the ACA to my family. My two sons, my husband and my mother all have pre-existing conditions. Both of my sons have been hospitalized with asthma multiple times, and—though my husband and I both work—without the ACA we would not be able to afford their preventative inhalers, much less be able to pay their hospital bills. In addition, my youngest son has a life-threatening peanut allergy, and we would not be able to pay our bills, eat and keep him with up-to-date Epipens without the help we receive from the ACA. This is lifesaving stuff. If this bill is voted through, you are endangering my family.

The Graham-Cassidy repeal bill is reckless, poorly-thought-out and cruel and I urge everyone to vote no. There are thoughtful, humane, bipartisan ways of approaching health care reform and I beg you to find them. Anyone who votes yes just to line his or her own campaign coffers should be ashamed.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Tina Rowley
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cara Tyler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Cara Tyler
Kirkland, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Tiedemann [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Catherine Tiedemann
Mesa, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julia Baker [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I'm respectfully asking that you do not let the Graham Cassidy bill pass. Every day more and more people and institutions and businesses are against it. If it passes 20-30 million people could be without healthcare. People without healthcare get sick and die. Taxes cannot be collected from dead people. Taxes keep the country alive. People cannot afford to pay exorbitant medical bills and their regular bills and buy new things. If people cannot buy new things the economy will grind to a halt. Well, except funeral parlors. Business will be booming there.

Please do not let this bill pass.

J.B.Baker

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cubbie Blue [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I oppose the Graham Cassidy on the terms of abolishment of Planned Parenthood, the eventual abolitionment of Medicaid, and concerns over states' rights to determine coverage, or lack thereof, for those with pre-existing conditions.

I feel this bill to be the outcome of nothing more than backroom deals for the Republicans in Congress, leaving the American people in grave danger, at great cost, and at grave risk.

Signed,

A Concern Citizen Lou

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Lemaster [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health Care Kill

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10
Stop the madness: Vote NO on Graham Cassidy Bill

You Know it will let people DIE!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dipesh Navsaria [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH Bill — Bad for Children

To the Esteemed Members of the Senate Finance Committee —

As a practicing primary-care pediatrician in a community health center, I can unequivocally state that the Graham-Cassidy bill represents a disaster for children’s health in this country. The severe cuts to Medicaid — which is a *children’s* program in the sense that the largest single group served by it are children — are unacceptable. Additionally, the instability caused to the parents of children due to the program’s creation of 32 million uninsured only furthers the harm to children by undermining the stability of the home.

This is poor policy. I urge the Senate to set this aside and reopen bipartisan talks that befit the importance of this issue to our nation.

Peace and Prosperity,
Dipesh

-<*>-----<*>-

Dipesh Navsaria, MPH, MS(LIS), MD
Pediatrician & Occasional Children’s Librarian Madison, Wisconsin, USA

e-mail: [REDACTED]

F: [REDACTED]

T: [REDACTED]

W: [REDACTED]

L: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edward Conrad [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health insurance is not healthcare

Health insurance is a scam. It's an unnecessary middleman between healthcare providers and patients. Worse, it segregates the risk pool and pits profit against care.

My spouse and I are healthy people. This year, we've already paid, out of pocket, over \$5,000 in healthcare. That doesn't include the costs of premiums -- \$6,000 and counting!

We don't need half-fixes to the ACA. We need health insurance gone. Do not allow the disastrous Cassidy bill to move forward.

Sincerely,
A Well-informed and Well-Educated American

-Edward Conrad
Duson, LA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: julierl [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

As a citizen and taxpayer I strongly condemn the most recent version of the Affordable Care Act repeal attempt, the Graham-Cassidy bill.

It's time to fix ACA which a majority of Americans (54%) want to keep.

Only about 24% or less want to repeal it.

Vote no on Graham-Cassidy which won't be properly scored by CBO.

Julie Long Gallegos
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mariah Maki [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GRAHAM-CASSIDY HEARING, MONDAY, SEPT 25, 2017

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have an aging parent who is a breast cancer survivor (pre-existing conditions), and has high blood pressure. She is retired and would be unable to afford quality care without the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan, Congressional effort improving the ACA, not replacing it.

Sincerely,

Mariah Maki
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Andrews [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why ACA matters to me

Dear Senators:

I am a Virginian who has health care through ACA. I am self-employed as a writer and editor. In January 2017, I was laid off from my full-time job, and my two options were to remain on COBRA (costing \$700+ per month) or buying insurance through ACA, which works out to just below \$300 a month.

Because I'm insured, I can take the antidepressant I need to stay healthy and productive, and see my psychiatrist every three months. Right now, because of the uncertainty in the Senate, however, several insurers have dropped the number of policies they will offer next year in Virginia. That includes my policy, so I don't know how much my deductible will be next year. I'm sure it will be higher.

As part of my work, I have talked to health care professionals in Southwest Virginia, where many people are uninsured. If Graham-Cassidy passes, we'll have even more uninsured, and people are going to head to the ERs. Which would you rather have? Taxpayers paying for indigent care or a system that allows us to have needed checkups and physicals? I'm no math expert, but the latter seems to be the more cost-effective option.

Living in Richmond, I could access health care at a free clinic or at Planned Parenthood if I didn't have insurance. I'd still be in trouble if I had cancer or suffered an accident. But the people in other parts of the state have very few options. That also includes kids of uninsured families.

I know that ACA has problems. But it is cruel to take away care. We are a wealthy country. Let's behave like it.

Thank you.
Kate Andrews

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Hinko <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed Graham Cassidy Legislation

I urge the Committee and the entire Senate to vote NO on this bill. It does not provide our American citizens with quality healthcare. To the contrary, it lists several crucial items not covered, thus leading many people to lose their healthcare coverage. It excludes people with preexisting conditions. It works to dismantle Medicaid.

Return to regular order. A bipartisan group was already in the process of drafting legislation that could help Americans, instead of hurting them. Stop Graham Cassidy, and let the bipartisan group resume it's work.

Thank you.

Michael Hinko
Albuquerque, New Mexico [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Staci Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Staci Anderson
Las Vegas, Nevada

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Your name]
[City, State]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher Coco [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Christopher Coco
San Francisco CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Bierman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill - Nay

Please oppose this bill as it reduces needed Medicaid support.
Does not guarantee inclusive pre-medical conditions for insurance.
And other harmful losses. Health for our citizens is not so simple and needs
more time to work out a good bi-partisan plan. Millions of people
will suffer if this passes.

Sandy

Sandra Bierman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin or his background or his religion..." Nelson Mandela

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for your *only* "healthcare" hearing, MA resident

Senate Committee on Finance
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Leslie Brown and I live with my husband in Cambridge, MA. The possible ACA repeal and the terrible new Graham-Cassidy bill (including the new revisions released late Sunday night) greatly affects our family.

Because our healthcare is highly variable, we have vacillated between having partially subsidized ACA and MassHealth. My husband and I are hard working Americans; we are adjunct faculty at esteemed colleges (universities relying on adjuncts, and providing no benefits, is another huge and separate issue) and contractors. Until recently, my mother-in-law was on Medicaid and in a nursing home. She died in July of dementia. We all have pre-existing conditions and cancer in our families.

This affects real people, real lives, right now. There is no way that we could afford my mother-in-law's care or take care of her ourselves or pay what the new estimates are for our pre-existing conditions. This new iteration is the worst proposal yet. Honestly, this whole ordeal has been incredibly anxiety inducing for our family and the Republicans' ongoing efforts to repeal the ACA has actually led to more healthcare problems for us!

Please remember: everyone is healthy...until they are not. Anyone could get diagnosed with something awful and/or be in an accident and our lives could turn on a dime. My friend just had a double mastectomy last week. I have a friend with two children on the autism spectrum. Many could be bankrupt tomorrow, if not for the ACA's protections. This new bills decimates that.


It's not just the ACA and covering pre-existing conditions and essential health benefits (and 32 million people losing coverage)... Had a baby? Have a relative in a nursing home? Know someone who has a child with disabilities or a friend with complex health issues? All of them are supported all or in part by Medicaid. This bill, like the others, cuts it by close to 1 TRILLION dollars and returns lifetime caps to 74 million people.

I am shocked that Cassidy and Price are doctors and representatives want to dismantle a law and kill people (which will be the result of this). They took an oath to do no harm and you took an oath to uphold laws and the constitution. Furthermore, parties from all parts of the spectrum -- patient groups, hospital, and yes even insurers -- are against your efforts.

Massachusetts should be a model for the ACA as we passed our Healthcare law in 2006 with bipartisan support under a Republican governor. The ACA is not in disarray, it is not failing. I implore you look to us in Mass to see how it works longer term; how we have made changes and tweaks; and have seen great success overall. In fact, MA's and the ACA efforts are Republican solutions, i.e., market-driven. I am aghast that Republicans will

not admit this and that they somehow refuse to own or acknowledge the heritage of the ACA. The solutions proposed so far would not only harm the market and spiral it into chaos, but affect people's lives now and face a possible future without a safety net.

Lastly, this hearing and the other in DHS are a sham. This is not regular order. The ACA had multiple hearings with people on both sides of the aisle and neutral experts; accepted 150+ GOP amendments, and was debated by the actual president. We want bipartisan solutions to fix the ACA and regular order. Do the right thing. Drop this bill and stop this outrage.

Thank you, Leslie K. Brown, 

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hayley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No On Graham-Cassidy

To the Senate Finance Committee,

My brother in California, my sister in Colorado, my best friend in California, So many others I know whose lives have been transformed by the insurance coverage they have had under the Affordable Care Act. They all rely on on quality, affordable healthcare. They have finally been able to take care of long neglected health care conditions. All of these loved ones will suffer greatly and likely join millions of others in becoming uninsured if the Graham-Cassidy bill moves forward.

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

Sincerely, Hayley Buchbinder

[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Blauth [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

James Blauth
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gina Mackintosh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Gina Mackintosh
Piedmont, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maria Glanz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 AM
To: gchcomments

Dear Senste Finance Committee,

My family's lives depend on affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My husband lives with ptsd and bipolar disorder, as well as arthritis. My son is on the autism spectrum. I live with depression. When our son was born, his birth was completely supported story by Medicaid.

We have health insurance now. Because of the ACA, we do not live in constant fear of a medical crisis we cannot afford. A crisis that could kill us, to be frank.

The ACA does need improving. Too much money is going to the big insurance companies, too little to actual doctors and health care workers. Premiums could come down if this changed.

Stop trying to repeal Obamacare. I want to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,

Maria Glanz
Vashon, WA

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maren Sinclair Hurn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

oppose Graham-Cassidy for these reasons:

1. It would gut Medicaid, which people in my age group are going to need sooner or later, as well as adults and children with disabilities, and the poor. Even people who have retirement or a pension are going to run out of money, especially if they have to go to a nursing home or become disabled. They will need to rely on Medicaid to fund their care. For 50 years, Medicaid has worked very well, and there is no reason to destroy it.
2. This bill ends protections for people with pre-existing conditions (as my brother in law has), or children born with pre-existing conditions.
3. Insurance companies no longer have to cover essential health benefits, such as maternity care, complete birth control funding, mental health needs, help for substance abuse, or prescription drug costs (which for my brother in law, is at least \$10,000/year out of pocket—even with Medicare and a supplemental policy.)
4. Insurance companies could charge more for a policy if a person gets sick, and premiums and out-of-pocket costs could be unaffordable for most people.
5. Insurance companies could put annual and lifetime caps on coverage, so that people would be unable to obtain care.
6. It would end Medicaid expansion, which under the ACA allowed people who were in greatest need to have health care for the first time. In 10 years, est. 32 MILLION people would lose coverage, which is a DISASTER.
7. The bill defunds Planned Parenthood, which means that women all across the country would lose access to basic health services, and puts thousands of women at risk who are unable to pay privately for mammograms, annual exams, pregnancy, and more.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would be disastrous for thousands, if not millions of people! **I would like to see, instead, a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it!!**

Thank you for considering my comments.

**Sincerely yours,
Maren Sinclair Hurn**

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Fox <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Mary Fox
Middle Island NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janda Siebert Rhea [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare, and because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband is a cancer survivor. He's in his prime, healthy and employed, yet before the ACA became law, we lived in fear that should he lose his job, he would be denied health insurance. Knowing that he cannot be denied coverage has been a huge relief and has allowed him to explore self-employment since we could purchase coverage should he choose to start a business. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Every American should have health insurance unless or until healthcare becomes at all affordable. Repealing the mandate would be a huge step backward. Accidents happen and even healthy 30 year olds can get a cancer diagnoses. This happened to my family and it could happen to anyone.

Sincerely,

Janda Rhea

Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: LAWRENCE BIONDI [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote no to Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill

As a person with a disability, I rely on Medicaid's Home-Based Community Services in Illinois. I use Personal Assists in my home to assist me with my activities of daily living, such as getting me out of bed, bathing me, preparing my meals and feeding me, shopping, doing my laundry, and putting me back into bed. I'm able to hold down a full-time job because of this Medicaid's program. Without this program, I would be locked away in a nursing home, where the state of Illinois would pay more for my institutional care than it would to keep me in my own home.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill would undermine my independence. This bill would brutally assault Medicaid, and in turn, it would assault me!! So I'm urging you to vote NO to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill.

Sincerely,

Larry Biondi

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lois Haight [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I rely on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am queer mentally ill person who relies on affordable easy access to therapy and psychiatric medications in order to live a full life. My mom has Multiple Sclerosis and also relies on quality affordable health care to maintain her chronic condition. My partner relies on affordable and quality healthcare for their hormone replacement therapy and antidepressants. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lois Haight
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Lois Haight
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ross Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern,

The way I see it, there will be a special place in hell for the supporters of Graham-Cassidy. John McCain is right, if you want to improve the ACA, go through the process of doing the people's business transparently (called regular order) and figure out how to make it better. In our great nation, health care should be a right (not a privilege). Sliding a program through that will collapse in 10 years and introduce a vast amount of uncertainty into a risk management business is not the answer. After the CBO scores this abomination of a bill, less people will be in favor than they are of Carrot Top in general. And, for no other reason than to give the world's largest ego maniac "a win". Just think.....WWJD!

Ross Miller
Abingdon VA

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Droid

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Bass [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cuts to Medicaid

To whom it may concern:

I have an eleven year old daughter with special needs. My husband and I both work outside of the home and because of this we could never get assistance of any kind for our daughter. Finally, two years ago we were informed about the CAP-C Program. My daughter was accepted into the program and it has been life changing for our family. Medicaid has enabled her to get so much more help than our private insurance would have ever covered. It's difficult to have an eleven year old that can't walk well, can't talk, can't dress herself, is incontinent, can't bathe herself and can't feed herself! Medicaid has been a life saver to our family in so many ways and it would be devastating to lose it because of cuts. Why not make cuts to people who receive Medicaid who are able to work or are here illegally? There's got to be a better way to make cuts than to take from these precious children that fight for their lives every day!

Jill Bass

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher Ireland [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare comments

i'm writing this from the ER of our local hospital. My husband is being treated for a contagious infection that could have spread to others in our community if he hadn't immediately sought care. He can do that because he's old enough for Medicare. I on the other hand am dependent on health insurance thru the ACA.

We're not poor. We retired with enough savings to last the rest of our lives if we live modestly--and if we stay insured. We've lived the American Dream, paying millions in taxes along the way without complaint because we believe in supporting the common good through effective government.

I am at a loss to understand why the GOP is trying to rush through a one-sided bill impacting 1/5 of our economy and millions of citizens without a CBO score, without sufficient discussion or debate, and in opposition to every leading medical association. I strongly object to this approach and hope it is defeated. Work together--across party lines--to fix the ACAs problems or leave the it alone.

sincerely,
christopher ireland
Nevada resident

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Cain [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Terrible process- Millions of Americans lives are at stake

I'm reading tonight of a new version of the bill being up for consideration and that this new version won't be scored by the CBO in time for a vote. As a citizen of the most populous state in the country, I'm also reading about yet a new method at taking more tax revenue out of the great state of California than will be returned.

Members of my family have pre-existing conditions and this new law is frightening to me in terms of the leeway for insurance companies to make insurance prices inaccessible to us.

Please vote NO.

Lisa

--

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Gundry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill - opposition

Our family, like most Americans, relies on quality, affordable healthcare. I have reviewed the Graham-Cassidy bill and its potential impacts on my family and fellow Americans and I oppose it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you.

Kathleen Gundry

San Anselmo, California [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Golub [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve not repeal the ACA

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. While we both do everything we can to remain fit, we each struggle w chronic health issues. We are grateful for the affordable health insurance that covers us. Changing coverage in the absence of a "preexisting illness protection clause" could cause our premiums to rise exorbitantly. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve** the ACA, **not repeal** it.

Sincerely,

Jane Golub

Huntington, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joe Creighton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Joe Creighton
Riverton, NJ
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenny Stephens [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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 urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee.

Jenny Stephens
Lansdale PA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steph Ban [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

My name is Steph and I'm from Illinois. I have multiple disabilities, and it is necessary for me to have support with activities of daily living, like dressing, bathing, and using the bathroom. These care assistants are paid for through the Home Services Program, a part of Medicaid. Having a team of care assistants makes it possible for me to go to college and live in a dorm like many other students. If I didn't have the support of my assistants, I would be unable to even get out of bed in the morning. I wouldn't be able to live away from home, and I would be at risk for institutionalization in a nursing home, likely for the rest of my life. There, my choices would be limited or nonexistent.

Having the autonomy to live my life as I want to, instead of in an institution, is invaluable. I can eat what I want, wear what I want, spend time with who I want, and go where I want because of Medicaid. That's why I urge everyone reading this to OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy and any other legislation that would make cuts to healthcare, including cuts to Medicaid. My freedom, and the freedom of many other Americans, depends on keeping our healthcare without cuts or caps.

Thanks for reading,
Steph Ban

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve Cairns [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Because my wife and I depend on reliable healthcare, we oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

As Senator Grassley recently revealed in an interview, support for this bill is NOT about improving healthcare— and healthcare is far too important for any party to rush some inadequate legislation for a cheap partisan win.

We need such a deliberate “Manhattan Project-style” task force to accomplish this: real negotiation— *across party lines*, and including the medical and insurance communities— for truly sustainable healthcare for all.

Please reject this renewed effort to “repeal and replace” the ACA, and commit to the real work of creating for Americans the healthcare that virtually every other nation in the developed world already enjoys.

Sincerely,
Steve and Sunny Cairns

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
Steve Cairns

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally R. [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Sally J Rastatter
Corry, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher Habenicht [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no Graham-Cassidy

September 24, 2017

Hello Senators,

I am writing you today on the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill that seems to be a ridiculously rushed bill that if passed would have dramatically devastating effects on millions of American people.

I would urge that the Senate not even put this bill up for a vote and return to the bipartisan talks to make permanent and effective fixes for the current law that we all recognize is far from perfect.

Voting on a bill that effects the entire country with virtually no time to review the bill and before the CBO can properly score it to give the most up to date facts is irresponsible. As I've seen all over from people scared about this bill, how can you vote on proposed legislation without fully understanding how it will impact everyone?

This bill would not provide what is promised, even with the updates I've seen so far tonight, it would be devastating to me and my entire family. It would not provide more access to affordable coverage, and in fact would likely price me out of coverage because I have a pre-existing condition. Note: I did see the use of "shall" and "adequate" in the updated bill regarding pre-existing conditions, but that does nothing to help and it certainly isn't a requirement. This bill would certainly bankrupt people; tell me how does that help the economy? In addition, and far more importantly, it could literally kill people.

Seeing the changes to the Graham-Cassidy bill that certainly seems to have been done to buy off Senators that were leaning on voting against this ludicrous bill and punish states that went forward with ACA provisions is egregious. Essentially, you are punishing people in states that vote against the current Republican agenda by taking money from them and giving it to "friendly" states. I would expect more from the U.S. Senate.

When it is clear that the people in overwhelming numbers are against this bill and this process, it is despicable that any Senator could vote for this in good conscience. In a representative democracy, simply ignoring the will of the people in favor of a large amount of money from donors is wrong.

I would like to echo some of Senator McCain's stances about a return to order for the Senate. Return to the bi-partisan talks, fix the law in regular order, have committees, get a full CBO score, take it to the people and then vote on it, otherwise it will go back and forth and no progress will ever be made.

Again, I would strongly urge you not to vote on this legislation, but it seems it will go forward, so I implore you to vote no. Analysis upon analysis shows that this bill is a horrible idea and should not go forward. Countless organizations, doctors, medical associations, and even insurance providers state how this bill is harmful to the American people. I know that facts don't seem to have a place in Washington right now, but I wanted to write to you as a real person that is extremely worried about this bill.

Vote no on Graham-Cassidy!

Thank you,

Chris Habenicht

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennie McDonald [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions, including depression and a previous tumor, and I depend on being covered so that I can get the follow-up preventative care that I need as well as address any other health concerns that may arise. My husband and I depend on the insurance he receives from work, and this bill won't ensure that our coverage will continue to meet our needs. I have also previously benefited from the Medicaid expansion, and services from that allowed me to receive excellent mental and physical health care services without the extra expense and worry of medical bills. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennie McDonald
Las Vegas, Nevada

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christi Whiting [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017
Attachments: Whiting-Graham Cassidy Hearing.pages

Please see the attached document for my comments re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017. I have also pasted the text below, to avoid any technological issues.

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

Christianne A.R. Whiting
[REDACTED]

My five year-old son, Cary, brings unimaginable joy to our family. He was born in 2012, a little smaller than expected. When he was six months old we learned that at conception, he was missing 27 genes on the 7th chromosome, a genetic condition called Williams Syndrome. This is a random deletion that occurs rarely and spontaneously. Cary was recently given a secondary diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Despite his amazing smiles and the love he has for our family, Cary also faces challenges that make our lives more complex than we ever expected they would be. Cary's conditions mean that he sees a team of specialists to watch for heart and other issues. He is also developmentally delayed and works hard in occupational, physical and speech and language therapies. We are grateful for Wisconsin's Katie Beckett Medicaid program, which covers medical needs that would be entirely excluded by our private health insurance—an ACA grandfathered plan that does not cover anything “relating to or resulting from developmental delay.” This is interpreted extremely broadly: because he was different at birth, the plan denies health care to Cary that would be covered for his typically-developing brother. Cary has also made great progress working with the early childhood team from our school district, which would not be possible without Medicaid funding. He recently began 30 hours a week of behavioral therapy to help with his autism challenges. He is learning how to play with friends and to avoid behavioral outbursts which impede our family's ability to socialize. We are on the years-long waiting list for our state's Children's Long Term Supports Waiver, which we hope could fund respite care.

Our family could not adequately meet Cary's needs without these supports, nor could he live a full life as an adult without help. It is stressful even now, both financially and emotionally. Block grants are not the answer. Rather than funding what my son needs, we would no doubt see his options shrink and his quality of life decrease. My dreams for his future in the community grow dimmer when I see Medicaid funding evaporating and the guaranteed coverage for “essential health benefits”, such as the habilitative and rehabilitative therapies he relies upon, on the chopping block.

On top of Cary's unique issues, my husband, Pat, was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma during the summer of 2015, at age 35. That year was extremely stressful, full of chemotherapy and radiation treatment, and some close calls including the meningitis and PCP pneumonia battles Pat faced with his impaired immune system. Thankfully, Pat is now in remission. We are, however, forever wary that his condition could come back. And had the prescription drugs he needed to save his life not been covered as “essential health benefits” or had we faced lifetime caps on coverage, the costs could have crippled our family, or the outcome could have been tragic. As it was, the costs of extra childcare, travel, food, etc. were substantial.

In short, my family is grateful for Medicaid, for the protections from discrimination that the ACA provides for pre-existing conditions, and for the coverage of “essential health benefits.” If the pending bill were to pass, we would most certainly face discriminatory health insurance rates based on Cary's pre-existing condition of being exactly who he has always been, and on Pat's cancer. Our Republican governor and congressmen have signaled that they see high risk pools as a path should the ACA be replaced, and I have no doubt that we could end up there. This is a terrifying thought, particularly given that Wisconsin's past experience with such pools left so many people waiting for coverage on waiting lists, or facing insurmountable costs or inadequate coverage. I also lie awake at night worrying about the prospect of lifetime caps on insurance costs. Cancer treatment is extremely expensive, and recurrence or a secondary cancer caused by Pat's initial treatment are real fears for our family: Cary's therapy and specialist costs will also add up quickly throughout his life, even if we are blessed to avoid heart surgery, which is not a given.

Given the short time-line before the only hearing on this bill, this letter is nowhere near as complete as I wish it could be. But I am stressed, and I am scared, and I am sad. If this bill would truly make things better, why are there ZERO patient or provider groups that support it? Why is this being pushed through without adequate analysis, information-gathering and debate to make sure we know its effects? Instead of making families like mine face uncertainty and hardship by instituting this incomplete “solution,” I beg you to please engage in bipartisan efforts to stabilize the insurance market and make our health care system better, not worse.

-Christianne Whiting (mother of Cary, wife to Pat) Christi.Whiting8@gmail.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Comcast [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GOP Cowardice

Sneaking a healthcare bill through the political process is what cowards do. This bill does not protect the health of Americans, it protects the wallets of the medical industry. Shame on you who vote yes on this abhorred bill.

Very sincerely,

Brett Beall,
Registered Voter in Oregon

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Lindstrom [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

You know what is right and I hope you act accordingly.

Jill Chi
Annanale, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frog [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

For the Senate finance committee hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal scheduled Monday Sept 25th.

From
Karen Bullock
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

The Graham-Cassidy bill should not be passed. Despite it not being scored by the Congressional Budget Office, the effects are quite well understood. And those effects are universally understood to be detrimental to each state, and the country as a whole.

Health advocates, economists, insurance companies, doctors, nurses are all saying Graham-Cassidy would hurt Americans while driving up medical costs. It puts healthcare out of the reach of those with pre-existing conditions. Americans with a history of cancer could see their health insurance costs rise by hundreds of thousands of dollars dooming patients with serious illnesses.

Graham-Cassidy destroys Medicaid by converting it to block grants. That puts great burdens on every state. If the block runs out, each state won't be able to provide protections for their people.

Graham-Cassidy is a thinly veiled attempt to punish states that complied with the ACA and expanded their Medicaid. It takes billions of dollars from NJ, NY and California which are blue States. It then redistributes this money to States smaller in population who didn't comply. Mostly red states. And still it attacks states like Kentucky, Alaska, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, denying their funding for Medicaid.

The negatives to Graham-Cassidy are many. It hurts the most vulnerable: the elderly, sick children and disabled veterans. A bill that does this amount of harm should have some massive benefit to it to justify the damage. But Graham-Cassidy does not. It won't increase insurance coverage. It won't protect the vulnerable in red states because it dooms rural hospitals. It is bad for the economy because it is currently causing such instability, the health industry doesn't know how to approach what happens in October of this year.

Graham-Cassidy should not be passed. It is a cruel piece of legislation that hurts Americans.

Thank you,
Karen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Grimes [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I have relied on the ACA for quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions, disabilities, and affordability because of auto accidents' injuries has left me without healthcare before the ACA was passed.

I have uninsured/underinsured auto insurance UM/UIM coverage but my insurance would not even cover \$4,000 medical tests done 12 days after the accident (when I informed them that I needed surgery). They only wanted me to accept \$5,000 total settlement & I refused.. Next they hired an atty to fight paying me ANY money. I have had that policy coverage for many years without a UM/UIM claim previously. Auto insurers refuse to pay without a long legal battle. WHY GET AUTO INSURANCE for extra medical bill coverage?

I need medical care. The ACA has been a gift from God.

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

Sincerely,
Sara Grimes

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Kammerer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care

I am urging the Senate to not pass the Graham-Cassidy Repeal Obama Care bill. Instead please work with the existing affordable health care law to make it better for all Americans. Going back to the beginning will only mean that millions of citizens will not have affordable healthcare.

Thank you.

Mike Kammerer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Haglund-Lynch [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing September 25,2017

Chairman Orrin Hatch:

My husband and I rely on quality affordable health care from the ACA. Because of this we oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Please read our story and share it with Senators during this hearing.

My husband, Tim Lynch, worked 37 years at St Mary's Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin and was never seriously ill until 2016. He helped thousands of patients due to his work in St Mary's Dietary department. In 2016, he had two 10-hour life threatening operations for a very rare and very serious type of brain tumor, and 30 radiation treatments in 2017. Because he had two operations in one year his job insurance dropped him and thankfully the ACA (Obamacare) took over.

He needed over 20 MRIs (\$8,000+ each), 2 operations (both over \$70,000) 30 Radiation treatments (Over \$7,000 each). The deductibles and co-pays took everything we had; all our savings, and left us over \$10,000 in debt.

Now Tim is in a natural history study at the National Institute of Health and two wonderful amazing doctors, one at NIH and one here at Dean clinic are working hard to find the best treatment for him. But the only insurance we qualify for and can afford is the ACA. Without it we will not be able to get the MRIs he needs every 2-3 months to make sure his tumor is not becoming life threatening, we will not be able to afford his medication. I will not be able to afford my medication for severe Rheumatoid Arthritis. This medication enables me to walk, drive, work and help Tim even with two fractured vertebrae and arthritis in all my joints.

There are millions of stories like ours- Please NO repeal . My Husband and I and millions like us deserve the chance to live long healthy lives just like every congressperson does.

Drug companies and insurance companies do not have the right to huge indecent profits at the expense of American lives. Would you vote for this if it would endanger the life of one of your family members?

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is unacceptable and inhumane. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely;
Linda Haglund Lynch
Timothy Lynch
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nate Keen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: [Chairman Hatch] RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chairman, Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate

Dear Chairman Hatch:

Enough is enough. It is unacceptable that so many members of Congress have repeatedly sent so many Americans—some of who are among our most vulnerable friends, family, and neighbors—on terror-inducing roller coaster rides themed with the future cost and coverage of their insurance and healthcare. It is no stretch to consider such behavior callous and even willfully malicious when the legislation has been written and pushed to fulfill a campaign talking point and hurriedly pushed from one stage to the next.

Where is the compassion for the constituents and fellow Americans? Where is the critical due diligence for something that would affect the livelihoods and very lives of so many Americans? Where is the necessary bipartisanship in what one hopes can still be considered a legislative body? Where is the pause when the medical community comes out as being overwhelmingly against this legislation.

Congress must work to ensure that all Americans in need of comprehensive, affordable coverage are taken care of by improving the things that need improvement and by preventing the current system from being actively and maliciously undermined. The individual stakes for American citizens are too large for this ridiculous rashness.

Sincerely,
Nate Keen
Columbus, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Hearing for Graham- Cassidy Healthcare Bill Sept 25, 2017

Comments for hearing Graham -Cassidy Health Care Bill Sept 25, 2017

Mary Clarke

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

Comments - Graham-Cassidy-Heler Healthcare Bill
Hearing Sept 25, 2017

Mary Clarke

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

Dear Senate Financial Committee Members;

If the additions to this great bill, are only being shared tonight with Republican -senators, why is it being pushed through, so quickly in the dead of a Sunday night ?? Why is there no bipartisan discussion in which facts can be shared fully, questions answered in depth and common ground found?

No is not yet a CBO - and should the CBO be available, I suspect it would be a bad thing for American! We already know the plan guts Medicaid and removes protections for those with preexisting conditions and if these are approved, insurance companies have no rules on how high the premiums may legally be .. Americans need affordable, fair insurance, for everyone - Congress should make their own healthcare program available to All Americans with pricing and coverage that is fair to everyone .. we cannot give tax brakes to the wealthy and charge our middle class and lowest class exorbitant fees .. please do not gut Medicaid - two of my nieces suffered horrific injuries in auto accidents - 1 was hit by a drunk driver at 14, left a quadriplegic on a ventilator - Kathleen graduated from Shenandoah U with a Bus Admin Degree -Cum Laude. She worked 4 days a week on behalf of ALL disable people at Access Independence until her death last year.at 41 .. she gave back every day of her life .. Jocelyn suffered a massive injury to her brain stem, at 18 .. she was not expected to live, yet contained physical therapy to relearn how to talk and is now undergoing therapy to learn to walk .. without SSDI and Medicaid, neither could have afforded to be able to live a full life and give back to the community! Please don't gut these programs that save lives and help people rebuild a life

Please NO to bribes for Alaska and Maine - while the other 48 States are thrown under the bus concerning health care.

RETURN TO REGULAR Order for this bill. Better yet, withdraw it.
Unconscionable!

PLEASE .. give America fixes to the ACA OR A MUCH BETTER, FAIRER HEALTHCARE PROGRAM
THAT FULLY AND AFFORDABLY MEETS THE HEALTH NEEDS OF ALL AMERICANS!

Mary Clarke
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:36 AM
To: gchcomments

Dear Senators,

I know hat many of you may feel that you have to vote for this bill to fulfill campaign promises, but passage of this bill will undoubtedly hurt many of your constituents, many in ways they didn't imagine.

I am currently caring for my husband, a veteran, who is on hospice, my son who has been fighting leukemia for 4.5 years, and my mother who has worsening dementia. Without the help of Medicare, I could not do so. If the lifetime caps are included, my son will not be able to continue his valiant fight. If the pre-existing conditions limits are included, he will never be able to get affordable insurance.

The bill, as written, will hurt millions of Americans, from the very youngest to the oldest. Anyone who signs to pass this bill will be signing off on many lives. I ask you to think, those who profess to be Christians, What Would Jesus Do?

Sincerely,
Bonnie Cramond

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy Sobeloff [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't repeal ACA

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

Sincerely,
Judy Sobeloff
Moscow, ID

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: delin@cff.org
Subject: Statement on Graham -Cassidy to SCF

Statement Submitted by Peter Hodge
Senate Committee on Finance
Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
September 25, 2017

As someone who has two children with Cystic Fibrosis the current health care debate in Washington is personal to me. Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is chronic disease that effects the lungs and digestive tract, leading to frequent lung infections and other complications. The current life expectancy for someone with CF is about 40 years.

I have seen both of my daughters suffer at the hands of this disease. Repeated hospitalizations, an intense regiment of medicines, therapies and clinic visits. This is their normal. It is only through continued access to affordable healthcare that both are able to lead full and productive life's today inspite of suffering from this chronic life threatening disease.

The Graham-Cassidy proposal, which the Senate is expected to vote on this coming week , is unacceptable for people living with CF and other chronic conditions. People with CF require a complex and demanding care regimen, and need access to high-quality, specialized care. **I urge all U.S. Senators to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill** because it would roll back protections for people with CF and jeopardize their access to affordable, adequate health care coverage.

The Graham-Cassidy bill fails to protect our community and is absolutely unacceptable for people with CF because it would:

a. **Remove full pre-existing condition protections for people with CF** by allowing insurers to set premiums based on an individuals' health status. This may put insurance coverage financially out of reach for some people with CF and prevent them from accessing critical health care.

b. **Eliminate Medicaid expansion and drastically cut funding for the program** by instituting a per capita cap or a state block grant system, putting coverage of new and innovative treatments at risk. Medicaid provides a critical source of health care coverage for one half of children and one third of adults with CF. We must preserve this safety net by retaining expanded eligibility and ensuring adequate funding for Medicaid.

c. Remove protections against annual and lifetime coverage caps, including for the millions of Americans with employer-sponsored insurance, by making it easier for states to amend Essential Health Benefits standards. Health care costs can accumulate very quickly for people with CF, making it very easy to reach annual or lifetime caps. The results of these caps can be devastating – leaving people with CF stranded without any coverage – and our community needs the protections against these caps to be kept in place.

d. Allow states to waive Essential Health Benefits. Eliminating the guarantee of essential health benefit coverage for individual insurance plans would segment the market into plans for sick people and plans for healthy people. This would likely drive up the cost of plans needed by people with CF, which provide more robust benefits.

While the Senate has considered several similar bills this year, Graham-Cassidy is the worst for people with preexisting conditions like CF, cancer, asthma, diabetes, or arthritis. Our health care system is far from perfect, but I refuse to believe any changes must come at the expense of the people who rely most on adequate, affordable health insurance.

I urge all US Senators to please keep families like mine in mind as you consider this legislation. Further I would ask all Senators to put aside ideological differences and work to build a healthcare system that works for all Americans regardless of age, health or wealth.

Sincerely

Peter Hodge.
Boca Raton, Florida.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sylvia Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern,

Twenty-eight years ago I gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. Her name is Meghan and she has Down Syndrome. My husband and I had discussed the possibility that I may be able to stay home with our new baby. My husband was self employed at the time and I carried our health insurance thru the company I worked for. So I started to call health insurance companies to find out pricing for health insurance. I was shocked when everyone I spoke with said that they would be happy to insure my husband and myself but not Meghan because she had a preexisting condition. I was so angry I hung up the phone and just cried. It was at this time that I realized that we as a family would have to be her advocate forever and teach her that she has a voice too and she would have to be her own advocate. So I was forced to return to work and put Meghan in daycare. Several years later I was pregnant with my third and the company that I worked for decided to change insurance companies and they choose MDIPA which was an HMO. Meghan was going to enter kindergarten and I wanted her to receive some extra occupational therapy. Once again Meghan was denied therapy because she had a preexisting condition and they told me that because Meghan was born with Down Syndrome she would never get better. I was outraged and felt that her life was not valued like my other two daughters were. She is a person first that just so happens to have Down Syndrome

We cannot not go back 28 years or more, nor will we, when people were not covered because they had a preexisting condition. What will happen to all these people that will not get proper medical attention because of cuts to medicaid. Not to mention the DDA funding that they receive. Are we saying that they are less a person because they have a preexisting condition.

I had cancer 17 years ago will I also be denied coverage.

You never know what life has in store for us. It could one day be your child, your grandchild, your wife or you that may be denied medical coverage because of medicaid cuts.

I ask you to please do some soul searching and do the right thing for all our people. They are just like you in more ways than you think.

Thank you for hearing me out,
Sylvia Jones

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ingrid & Michael Alberts [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham- Cassidy

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Passage of Graham- Cassidy would lead to catastrophic consequences for our country. Millions would be uninsured and premiums would sky rocket for persons with pre existing conditions.

The ACA and Medicaid expansion prevented denying people with pre existing conditions coverage and provides coverage for millions of Americans.

Do not take this safety net away from hard working Americans to fund tax cuts for the rich.

Thank you,

Ingrid Alberts RN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daniel Vandekoolwyk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Good morning,

As an American with a pre-existing condition, having access to quality and affordable healthcare is vital to myself, and to several people I love dearly. I am eternally grateful for the ACA for providing me that access, and saving the lives of people. The Graham-Cassidy bill would undermine the progress we have made with the ACA. It would not fix any of the issues that the ACA may have, and would only reduce the quality of healthcare in our lives.

I strongly urge the committee to reject the bill. Instead, the Senate should return to the bipartisan bill prepared by Lamar Alexander and Senator Murphy. A return to regular order is desperately needed for a bill that would have such a large impact on the United States economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Daniel Vandekoolwyk
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
Daniel Vandekoolwyk
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Denise Sandoz]
North Mankato, Minnesota]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: George Anna Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCHcomments

What health bill? Is this a health bill? Sounds like death panels to me.

I'm opposed to cutting medicaid, the block grant approach, cutting reproductive health, giving the states the possibility of denying preexisting conditions and killing the individual mandate. How can you possibly approve a bill that so many major health care advocates and insurance companies are against? How could this possibly work as insurance? Why can you not wait for the cbo score? Right, cause you'll miss the deadline and you'd have to find 60 senators. Why are you ignoring regular order? Ah, because the people would find out how ridiculous this bill is.

I can only say the Republicans are too stupid to know what's on their own bill, or too evil to care.

How dare you play with people's lives.

(and to you Dems on the committee;persist! And to staff: thank you for your work, my anger is solely directed to those supporting this farce of a bill.)

Sincerely,
George Anna Clark

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: B Rizzle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Dear 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 would cause 30+ million people to lose health coverage. Moreover, the bill would destroy medicaid and harm some of the most vulnerable members of our society, seniors, and people with disabilities.

Sincerely,
Brian Kniffel
Manhattan Beach, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Reilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My daughter's story

My daughter has a serious, chronic condition. She works hard every day to overcome the obstacles she faces, including getting her Master's in Teaching. Although she is currently working as a teacher, her position is only part-time, which keeps her from having medical benefits. When she was no longer eligible for my coverage on my insurance, we tried to obtain insurance for her on the open market. We were turned down by four insurance companies because she has a pre-existing condition. It was a God-send for us when the ACA was signed into law. Although she qualified for subsidies through the exchange, my husband and I decided to tighten our financial belts and pay for her coverage until she is able to find a full-time teaching position with benefits. We do this because we can, unlike the millions of people who don't have our financial resources.

Instead of rushing a repeal bill through that strips away protection from anyone with a pre-existing condition and taking away Medicaid to the millions of people in need, I would ask that you pull back this effort and work in a bi-partisan way to fix the problems with the ACA. I read this quote in a newspaper article, which I find very disturbing:

This is a Sen. Grassley (R-IA) quote about Graham-Cassidy: "You know, I could maybe give you 10 reasons why this bill shouldn't be considered," the Iowa Republican said. "But Republicans campaigned on this so often that you have a responsibility to carry out what you said in the campaign. That's pretty much as much of a reason as the substance of the bill."

This is the justification given for throwing millions of people off health care? If so, then anyone who votes for this new repeal bill should be ashamed. The lives of, perhaps, millions of people hang in the balance.

Cathy Reilly

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

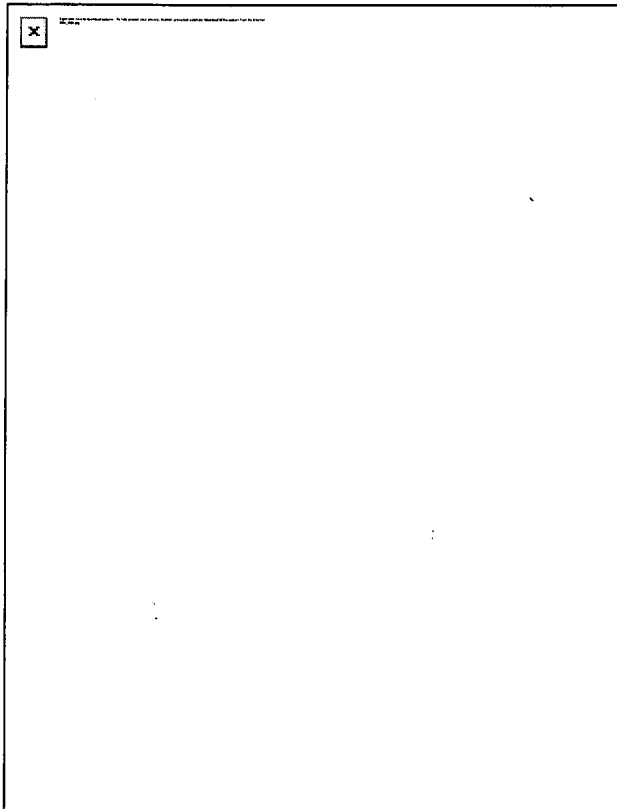
From: Jill Casson Owen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Jill Owen
Tucson, Arizona

Sent from my iPad



Finn wearing his daddy's shirt

We have been very pleased with the early intervention services he is receiving through state and county resources. We know that as progresses through public school and as he approaches adulthood, Medicaid and waiver services will be necessary to allow him to live and work as independently as possible in our community. The cuts and caps to Medicaid through the Graham-Cassidy Bill would put Ohio in a financial position such that the optional waiver services would have to be cut. We don't yet know how much support Finn will need to be employed and live independently. But it is virtually assured that he won't be able to without the supports that Medicaid offers. We simply cannot afford to provide this on our own. One thing we have learned in our short time as part of this wonderful Down syndrome community is that with the appropriate supports, our children with Down syndrome can do amazing things and be included and valued members of our society. Attitudes toward and acceptance of persons with Down syndrome have improved so much in the past couple of decades. The loss of Medicaid supports would halt and even reverse this progress as people with Down syndrome almost vanish from participation in public life.

I am also opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill on a professional level as well. I have worked in public health in Ohio for the past 13 years. For populations such as persons living with HIV and persons who are dealing with opiate addiction, expanded Medicaid is a necessity. Even with current resources, the fight against opiate addiction is difficult; it will without doubt become disastrous with Ohio receiving a penalty for having expanded Medicaid.

I have only touched on issues here that are personal to me. This only scratches the surface of ways this bill will negatively impact Americans, which I trust you are hearing about in other testimony. I urge you strongly to vote against this bill.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Snyder

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Snyder [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy testimony

Please find attached my written testimony on the Graham-Cassidy bill (via link or text below). Thank you.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iqhAbHqziW4ke4i0hlH7M7_QB0VrAEyElObylsUQ0vs/edit?usp=sharing

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
September 25, 2017
Jennifer Snyder
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am providing written testimony in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. This bill will have a devastating impact on my family, and specifically for my son, Finn, who has Down syndrome. My husband and I received a postnatal diagnosis of his Trisomy 21 at his birth nearly 4 years ago, on October 31, 2013. In addition to adjusting to that surprise, we also spent 20 days in the NICU with several issues, but primarily pulmonary hypertension. I can vividly remember sitting next to Finn's bassinet in the NICU, thinking what an immense relief it was that, under the Affordable Care Act, we would not have to worry about pre-existing condition clauses and lifetime coverage caps that would have been likely just a few years before. Removing protections for these provisions would be devastating to persons with medical disabilities.

Finn is nearly four years old now and experiences many of the global delays typical of Down syndrome. But he is also very much like other children his age. He loves music, cartoons, and playing with toy cars. He loves giving hugs and fist bumps.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Hudack [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017
Attachments: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson_20170925_SenateCommitte.pdf

The enclosed message (and below text) is for consideration during the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017.

I appreciate your review and consideration of this important matter - my son's life depends upon it.

Please contact me with questions or concerns via:

Andrea Hudack
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Andrea Hudack

TO: Senate Committee on Finance
ATTN: Editorial and Document Section, Rm. SD-219
Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-6200

FROM: Andrea Hudack
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, September 25, 2017, 02:00 PM,
215 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Dear Senators:

My beautiful little boy has experienced two profound firsts in his third year of life - sitting by himself and grasping a swing without assistance. These are profound because for much of the first year of his life he was fighting to survive after being deprived of oxygen at birth and for the second year of his life, he was gaining strength but still fighting illness and poor health. This progress might all be halted and his life lost due to the immature and opportunistic politics surrounding our healthcare and restricting Medicaid assistance.

I urge you to put aside partisan politics and the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal for the good of all those who need appropriate and affordable healthcare coverage in the United States. It is imperative that the protections put in place by the Affordable Care Act are universally preserved:

- Protections of essential health benefits for those with pre-existing conditions (including hospitalization, prescription drugs, habilitative and rehabilitative services etc.) and protections from higher premiums due to pre-existing conditions
- Protections from arbitrary financial limits for annual or lifetime healthcare benefits
- Protections for people with disabilities to receive supports and live in the community, not institutions

It is also imperative that the most vulnerable people not be put at risk due to the prediction that states would be forced to reduce services and coverage eligibility under the proposed Medicaid cuts in the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal.

I have experienced firsthand that anyone is in peril of financial ruin, pain and suffering due to one unfortunate circumstance, be that accidental injury, disability, heart attack, stroke, mental illness, or a progressive illness, without the protections of the Affordable Care Act. In 2014, my son was unexpectedly born with complex medical needs that require nursing / hospital level care at home. The result of these circumstances was my unplanned resignation from my position as an engineer and our household relying on a single income. I currently provide and lead my son's care with the guidance of (14) fourteen healthcare providers, therapists and specialists. He is thriving despite his complex medical needs, including Cerebral Palsy and a movement disorder, developmental delay, seizures and respiratory compromise.

Medical fragility and dependence does not make my son's, or any others', life less valuable – it is more precious. My son helps everyone he meets find both the simple joys in life and the benefits of diversity and inclusion. A true Pro-Life position protects the unborn but must also include the access to appropriate and affordable healthcare for all. If you deny anyone essential medical care, you deny that person the right to life which I find criminal.

You can do better TOGETHER in government by proposing solutions that both universally preserve the current Affordable Care Act protections and effectively remove the barriers crippling the current system. As an

engineer, I know complex problems often have remarkably simple and elegant solutions if the underlying problem is well understood.

Please show your constituents your courage to develop legislation with the meaningful changes true healthcare reform requires by voting No on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. My son's life depends upon it.

Sincerely,

Andrea Hudack

Neenah, WI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom Hartmann [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. The lack of protections for pre-existing conditions will materially harm my beautiful 5 year old daughter, born with a genetic condition.

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.

Tom Hartmann
Plano, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tara Schoffstall [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I want you to vote against Graham-Cassidy.

The ACA saved my life. I broke my arm, had complications, and racked up nearly a quarter of a million dollars in bills, all because I tripped over a box. I was unable to either afford or get insurance before as I also have pre-existing conditions. The ACA got me a plan less than two months before I tripped.

Because I know have affordable insurance, other health issues have been found and are being treated. Severe sleep apnea, severe depression and PTSD, acid reflux, restless leg, etc.

The American People spoke on election day, and they voted overwhelmingly for Obamacare and Hillary Clinton. Single payer is the way to go. Graham-Cassidy is not.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: shar bacchus [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy would hurt me and my family, please pursue bipartisan improvements to the ACA

Dear Senators,

My family and I, living in California, Minnesota, Florida, Illinois, and Wisconsin, rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family includes young doctors, disabled elders, chronically ill mothers, and children born with birth defects, and all of them will suffer if the ACA is repealed; some from impacts to their health coverage, and others from impacts to Medicare and the health insurance market itself.

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

Sincerely,
Sharlana Bacchus
Mountain View, CA

--

"do justly now, do mercy now, walk humbly now. you are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." -- the talmud

"to the work you are entitled, but not the fruits thereof." -- the bhagavad gita

"dilige, et quod vis fac..." -- st. augustine

"the difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world's problems." -- mohandas k. gandhi

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elaine C. Erb [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: save our health care!

Dear finance committee members:

If we want to alter health care in this country, let's come up with a well reasoned plan. A plan that has support from each side of the aisle. A plan that works for more people. What's currently on the table is none of the above.

I lost my job during the recession. At the same time, my mother was struggling with cancer. As I sat with her on her odyssey, I was impressed with what health care in this country can do. She went through multiple surgeries and a variety of treatments before finally succumbing.

During this period, I became a member of the gig economy. I needed jobs with flexibility which meant no benefits. If I wanted a flu shot, I could go to my grocery store but that was the extent of my access to health care. The passage of the ACA meant that I was finally able to afford insurance and see a doctor. Since then my work situation has improved and I am able to afford a bit more towards my insurance.

The little bits of information that trickle out about the current proposal scare me. People will lose insurance while you on the senate get great coverage. It's absolutely ludicrous that we can not establish a means to make health care available to people more reasonably. Europe has done it. We used to do it. Yet it appears that there is more interest in cutting taxes for the rich, supporting an insurance industry which has gotten greedy, allowing pharmaceutical companies to work for profit rather than general good, and let hospital administrators become rich.

When did we become a country that believes basic health care is a privilege? This is not who we are.

Vote against the Graham Cassidy travesty.

Elaine C. Erb
ecerb@indra.com
Where's My bus? Find out using the [Transit App](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Frey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller

I strongly oppose this bill. It appears to be as bad or worse than all of the previous versions. It seems the GOP is merely trying to please their wealthy donors instead of listening to the people in America, since the majority of us want the ACA repaired, not repealed.

The intelligent thing to do would be to start working toward a single payer system, like most other modern democratic countries have.

Again, I am vehemently opposed to GCH.

Susan Frey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: gnnthompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Gch bill

This is a step backward from humane health care. It would leave too many Americans without insurance.
Nancy Hawks thompson newport wa [REDACTED]

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Stehlik [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 AM
To: gchcomments; senator@feinstein.senate.gov
Subject: Graham/Cassidy is a catastrophic bill

Dear Senate committee members,

Graham/Cassidy would have catastrophic effects on our country. Personally, I have two friends who are dependent on insurance via the exchange and Medicaid to get medications that they need to keep a job and lead a productive life. This bill eliminates those resources and puts nothing in it's place. States could take two years to create an alternative. That's too far too long., In the mean time the insurance market will be thrown into greater chaos with premiums rising even more as a result. ACA needs to be reformed and improved not repealed.

Sincerely,

Chris Stehlik
California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JOHANNES KROEMER [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal ACA

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

Johannes Kroemer
Brooklyn, NY

Johannes Kroemer

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gretchen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on GCH

Honorable Senators:

I am writing to speak out against the repeal of the ACA and the modifications proposed for Medicaid in the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill proposed. As an American parent of multiple kids, your proposed bill will impact our family in several detrimental ways.

My son Liam is your average underemployed 24-year-old. Without access to his Father's insurance plan, my son would be uninsured. He would not have access to a PCP and when medical questions arose, he would have to delay medical care until a situation warrants an ER visit. This type of healthcare access is ineffective in treating people and could lead to long-term significant debt or bankruptcy in his future.

For myself, access to a subsidized plan is financially necessary due to my role as the only parent and primary caretaker of my 3 younger children with complex medical needs. Without this access, I too would be uninsured. My young kids' lives depend on my continuing health and management of my allergies and asthma. Even as I return to the workforce, allowing hefty premiums as a punishment for continuing to have an ongoing health condition (asthma) would prevent my access to insurance when working full time.

My 3 youngest children arrived prematurely to the world. The twins arrived at 27 weeks and my youngest at 33 weeks. Because of their early birth, they suffer from BPD-Broncho Pulmonary Dysplasia. This Chronic Lung Disease of Prematurity under your proposed plan will make them uncoverable under private insurance for their lifetimes- regardless their employment or level of success. Their current level of medical need far exceeds the level that would be provided under your new "plan" for Medicaid. The changes to Medicaid proposed in your bill would be a certain death sentence for one of my children and would compromise the health and longevity of my other 2 complex ex-preemies as well. Two of my children rely on medical devices for breathing support EVERY SINGLE DAY, one also relies on GTube feeding supplementation. The costs of their medicines for only their lung disease far exceeds even the amount a Senator could afford to spend monthly, add digestive system management, pain management, specialists' visits and skilled nursing needs and the richest among you would notice the drain.

Maybe you think my children are not worth it? My daughter with a tracheostomy tube, which bypasses the collapse in her upper airway caused by doctors who saved her life after delivery, performs at the top of her age-aligned grade level. Adrien has knowledge of the body, it's systems and medicines or interventions that improve some health challenges, far beyond others years older than she. She wants to be a doctor- an ENT. Will SHE be the one who develops better procedures to save other preemies the fate of a trach after repeat & prolonged intubations? Will she be the doctor on staff at YOUR future great grandchild's hospital who finds the solution that keeps her or him breathing well after delivery so that they can go home to grow and enjoy typical life? I can tell you she won't be if you deny her healthcare.

My youngest wants to be a nurse. Will Keva care for you or your loved one at the end of their life? During or after the birth of their child? When they have had an accident that threatens their life? Certainly not if she can't access healthcare and receive asthma meds when she has difficulty breathing because her airways are inflamed. She needs ongoing medical care and eventual access to private medical coverage when she is an adult and ready to work.

Maybe it is my younger son who is unworthy if healthcare? Tav is not likely to be a doctor like his twin, nor nurse like his younger sister. He could grow to be the astronaut or NASA employee he dreams of becoming. Or the mechanic who

deciphers the clunk/growl sound effects you describe your car to be making these days. He has a capacity to love and forgive and help that I hope to find more of in our country- every day. If you're not sure he's worth it, I tell you that I ***KNOW*** he is.

The proposed GCH does not "improve" healthcare costs nor access challenges. It is a bad bill that should receive 100 "Nay" votes and leave the Senate in a wastebasket.

The ACA is an imperfect law. It has areas that need revision and redevelopment. This is a task I believe you could work on across the aisle and come up with an improved plan for your constituents and all of the American people. An achievement like a plan that improves access while being fiscally responsible would be a worthwhile target for your renovation of the ACA. Please vote **NO** on the GCH and return to committee to develop a plan ***on behalf of*** the American people, not against us.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Gretchen Kirby

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie A [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: the GH bill

I have two kids, 5 and 6, both were born with an unknown condition. We currently have samples at MIT and Harvard to determine what is wrong with my kids. My 5 year old has a feeding tube and a port so she can receive IVIG, or 5,000 people's antibodies infused into her every other week. Without it, she experiences infection, weakness, weight loss, sleep and cognitive impairment, and overall feels like crap. Before you are quick to judge, envisioning what my kid looks like, she looks like everyone else. Her IQ is in the gifted range, and she is likely to make a positive contribution to society when she grows older. Now, she already contributes by tending to a large community garden where everybody benefits. This would not even be possible without her tube feeds and her IVIG.

My 6 year old has the same issues, but she eats by mouth. She also gets IVIG, but hers is weekly. Also, her cognitive abilities are in the high range of gifted. She also wouldn't be able to attend her public all-gifted school if it weren't for these treatments. Both kids have "pre-existing" conditions. Both face life threatening illness without their treatments.

My husband had a brain tumor removed in 2013. I have graves disease.

What are we supposed to do for healthcare if this passes? Give most of my paycheck for insurance? As it is, we are paying for cobra at \$1400/month. While I make ok money, my husband is laid off. If this bill passes we won't qualify for medicaid, even my kids without a diagnosis won't qualify. So I'm supposed to risk their lives because someone has decided their best move was "repeal" of life-sustaining treatments? My kids deserve to live. I deserve to be able to send them to school every day not worrying if they will catch something that can kill them. DO NOT pass this bill.

Sincerely,
Julie Angileri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Duncans [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy

I, my family, and everyone in my **community** rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Here are just a few examples, which shows how each of us is connected to people who need the ACA:

- My mother is disabled now and relies completely on affordable healthcare and in-home care
- My daughter has several friends at school who rely on Medicaid or ACA for healthcare – and before the ACA they were forced to go to the ER for any sort of medical treatment: even routine required shots for going to school
- My daughter's friend cut his hand severely and was afraid to go to the ER because he didn't think he had insurance. I took him and, yep, he required 7 stitches. Medicaid covered it. Should a kid have to go through life without adequate care because his parents are not working? Doing that and risking infection would have crippled his hand function.
- A sister-in-law, a brother-in-law, and nieces and nephews have allergies which are pre-existing conditions
- My friend has asthma which is a pre-existing condition
- Two weeks before the ACA took effect I had to go to the ER. In the bay next to me was a man who'd been fired from his job as a cook because he was in his 60s and "couldn't move as fast in the kitchen anymore." He was in the ER to get a refill on his heart meds because he no longer had insurance but "wanted to keep living." How many of you senators are over 60? How would you like having to resort to going to the ER for your meds?
- How much money did we all waste subsidizing ER visits prior to the ACA, which overcrowded ERs -- and due to ER protocol, required expensive tests to rule out emergency medical conditions?

Any of you senators who vote for Graham-Cassidy and to repeal the ACA should also repeal your own federally provided generous healthcare plan. It is deeply odious to see

so many of you subscribing to the “some are more equal than others – and those who are more equal than others are the ones who deserve healthcare” philosophy.

If you think “no healthcare” is fine and dandy for regular citizens, it’s fine and dandy for you.

Remember, all of us taxpayers pay for your health insurance, and you seem perfectly happy to accept such socially funded government-administered healthcare.

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

Sincerely, E Duncan
Washington State

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kurt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Kurt Gottlieb
Alameda, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jason Ward [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Jason Ward
Phoenix, Arizona

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Samantha Hicks [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA and the Graham-Cassidy disaster

To the members of the Senate Finance Committee:

As a citizen of this country and the mother of two young daughters, I respectfully ask that you set aside the Graham-Cassidy bill and start looking for ways to expand access instead of restrict it. My husband and I believe very strongly in family and have made many sacrifices to enable me to stay home with my children while they are young. No fancy cars, new houses, fancy smartphones or vacations, but we recognize how lucky we are to at least be able to make our life happen on one salary. Last year, my husband found his work environment increasingly unsafe due to poor management and we realized that he needed to get out of his situation - being there and healthy for his children is more important than anything to us. Of course, leaving a job - even a perilous one - means losing one's health insurance and the only job I could get quickly was near minimum wage and of course, without insurance. Thankfully, we were able to get good coverage through the ACA - for our children's vaccinations and strep-throat and pink-eye, nothing serious but ailments and issues that would have had much broader implications in our local community if left unaddressed. I think often of what might have happened if the ACA had not been there and the episode has made me acutely aware of what things cost and what the mindset feels like to have to consider which of my children's ailments might be "serious enough" to spend money on if we were ever without insurance - it is a horrifying thing to consider.

Any effort you make to remove people from real access to AFFORDABLE health insurance - insurance that is not piecemeal, doesn't ignore crucial aspects of public health like maternity care and doesn't shut us out right when we need it most - is turning your back on the well-being of your constituents.

Please do not advance this wretched excuse for a bill.

Sincerely,

Captain Samantha Hicks
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Cummings [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

To those on the Senate Finance committee,

Please reject the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a veteran, this bill will take away healthcare for millions of vets - particularly older vets who need the care more than ever. When we sign on the dotted line, we promise to protect EVERYONE - not just those who can afford to pay. Healthcare should be no different. Everyone should have coverage, and frankly, insurance - by its very nature - means that everyone buys in. All are required to have car insurance - why should this be any different?

A bi-partisan solution to fix the ACA would be better for everyone, and is the proper and correct way of doing business in our government.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Cummings
Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: nancy culhane [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please protect our ACA healthcare

My name is Nancy Culhane, and I live at 112 Bothin Rd. in Fairfax, California.
I am writing to ask our legislators to save our ACA healthcare.
Please say no to the Cassidy Graham bill which would drastically change our access to quality care.

I was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia in 2010, and spent 8 months in the hospital trying to deal with this fatal illness via chemotherapy. Thanks to the ACA, I didn't have to stop treatment due to what would quickly have been my lifetime cap. My very caring doctors told me that the chemotherapy did not work for me and my only chance for survival was a stem cell transplant at Stanford, which worked. I have been spending the past few years trying to get my "new normal" life in order. Unfortunately I have a progressive lung disorder called Graft vs. Host Disease. I need my monthly clinic visits, medication and medical oxygen to do the things I do every day for myself, my husband and my 4 children.

Losing my affordable coverage would be the end of my care. I am not wealthy. We've struggled to even make the co-pays and hospital stay payments, but have been able to do so with the help of family and community. Please, do not take away my care and the care of all Americans who deserve high quality, affordable care.

Sincerely,
Nancy Culhane

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sonja hinz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

My family currently uses the exchange created by the ACA for our daughter's health care. I get my health care through my employment, but it is too expensive to cover my husband. My work plan makes it so he is ineligible for subsidies on the exchange, so he is currently without healthcare. When we were first married we were extremely poor and have slowly been building our income year by year. We would not have been able to afford to have our daughter at the hospital without Medicaid - she ended up being born by emergency c-section (we had planned on a less expensive home birth). Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA in order to allow my husband to get affordable health care, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Sonja Hinz

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kecia Weller [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:24 AM
To: gchcomments; scdd@scdd.ca.gov SCDD General
Subject: Graham Cassidy Testimony
Attachments: Graham Cassidy Testimony.pdf; ATT00001.htm; IMG_7465.jpeg; ATT00002.htm

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to offer my written testimony for the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal for how Medicaid and Medicare benefit my life living in the community as I do. You will find an PDF attachment with my written testimony plus my picture (so, you can see I'm a real person that will be drastically affected if the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal becomes law).

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alexa Wriggins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 AM
To: gchcomments

Hello,

My family is one of those that rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My husband was born with a genetic kidney disorder that causes kidney failure and requires a transplant or dialysis for treatment. He's always worked, even when very ill, and has always had great health insurance through his union. Due to his extensive and complex medical history If pre-existing conditions or lifetime caps become a reality, we'll be faced with financial ruin in order to keep him alive. The thought is crazy, as we are a comfortable middle class family and have always saved for times uncertainty, but this could be much too much to bear. I'm afraid of losing my house and retirement savings if this bill passes.

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

Sincerely,
Alexa Wriggins

Oakland, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leila S [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

Stop the madness! i am on the #ACA and it is a great program. I pay in full. Stop Graham Cassidy from taking healthcare away from 32 M ppl. The death toll of 40,000 per year for the Koch bros to make their multi million paycut is horrendous. Stop their bribery.

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.

Leila Saeed
San Jose CA

This email is intended for recipient only and is not to be sent to unknown parties. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erik Hudzik [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: From a Cystic Fibrosis patient

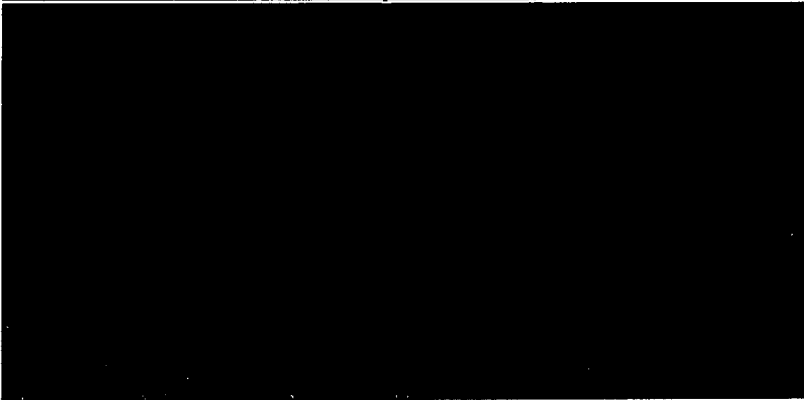
To whom it may concern,

My wife has Cystic Fibrosis. A fatal genetic lung disease for which there is no cure. She is now 35 and when she was born her parents were told she might not make 18. Currently the life expectancy for CF patients is ~37 years. She's literally chasing her life expectancy. Ive written and called dozens of Senators and House Reps to make our voices heard as we echo the feelings of most major medical advocacy groups, drs, and even insurance companies

(<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.washingtonpost.com/amphtml/news/wonk/wp/2017/09/22/heres-a-list-of-medical-groups-opposing-the-cassidy-graham-health-care-bill/>). The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is our specific advocacy group.

CF is a pre-existing condition. For my wifes entire life, health insurance has been a major concern. Far more of a worry than it should be since she literally has to fight to breath every day. Every analysis that has come out has shown the Graham Cassidy bill (version 1 or mystery version 2 - now worse and with bribes) would again leave people in our situation terrified for our future. This bill does NOT guarantee protections for people like my wife, despite your comments to the contrary - that only show your lack of understanding of your own bill.

If you care to read our whole story, dig up the letters ive sent you, or follow this link to my letter - [Letter to Elected Officials re: ACA Repeal and CF](#)



Letter to Elected Officials re: ACA Repeal and CF

*UPDATE 9/21/17: With the added traffic to this post lately from Twitter, I wanted to add: Next month, October 14th, I am doing a Stair Climb fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation to raise ...

Suffice to say, we are terrified about your continued obsession with repealing a law and protections which we have waited our lives for. Your obsession has directly made us forgo entrepreneurial opportunities because I cant trust when you will take away our ability to buy reasonable insurance since my with has a pre-existing condition.

The way you have gone about this bill is extremely reckless and shameful. Put your constituents, and reasonability, first, and dont just charge at the windmill - against all expert advice - and risk the lives of millions of people just to get an extremely u popular President a "win".

Restart bi-partisan work to improve the ACA.

Thank you,
Erik Hudzik
Mary Delany-Hudzik

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: hchcomments@finance.senate.gov
Subject: Health care needed

Real people like me need to keep affordable health care under ACA and Medicaid expansion. I was on individual market with preexisting conditions and age 60 or above. Before Obamacare I had access to only one insurance AARP which doubled premium with surcharge. It had high deductible. Fortunately Ohio took Medicaid expansion. This saved the day as I wait for Medicare. We shouldnt be held hostage on individual exchange. Not everyone has employer subsidized or retiree health. Shore up the exchanges. Keep the subsidies. Keep Medicaid expansion. Its a life saver. Dont kill off Americans for your campaign donors pocketbooks.

Thanks. Marcia Petchers

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: annievillarreal16 [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Annie Villarreal]
[Rio Grande, TX]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kari and Eric [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Kari and Eric
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare (myself, my husband a, and our 2 teenage children). Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Because of the ACA we are able to afford health insurance. I had breast cancer when I was in my 40's. I work very hard to live in a healthy way and regular health care is an important part of staying well. We live in a rural area where well paying jobs/jobs with benefits are scarce. When everyone matters and thrives, we are a better nation and a better world.

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

Sincerely,
Karen Bown
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Spilka [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy-Heller

I urge you to REJECT Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan legislation the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable Americans -- children, women, the elderly, people with disabilities, and people with pre-existing conditions.

We are counting on you.

Sincerely,

Ellen Spilka
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margo Hamilton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill.

I implore all Senators to vote against this wretched excuse for a healthcare bill. The disregard for human life and welfare shown by this bill is staggering. If Republicans pass this bill you will no longer be able to honestly say that you value the sanctity of human life. Why urge a woman to "choose life" then deny maternity and well baby care? Unbelievable.

--

"She wasn't what you'd call refined. She wasn't what you'd call unrefined. She was the kind of person who would keep a parrot." Mark Twain

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Balaban [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: This bill will kill my patients

Dear Members of the Finance Committee:

I am a pediatrician in Charlottesville, Va. Nearly a third of our patients rely on Medicaid. Many of our patients have chronic health conditions (aka "preexisting conditions" and "costly"). Even for patients who have private insurance, medications can be prohibitively expensive.

A small sampling just from this month's patients:

- a 1-month old who just spent 2 weeks in the hospital, mostly in intensive care, with suspected lung disease
- a premature infant who spent 2 weeks in the hospital at birth
- a 10-year-old with an immunodeficiency who requires monthly infusions of immunoglobulins (antibodies) to prevent serious illness
- several children with autism who receive special education services through school (funded by Medicaid)
- many children with asthma who require inhalers to breathe when they get a cold
- many children with painful ear infections or strep throat who can be adequately and inexpensively treated in their primary care office, avoiding worsening illness or an expensive trip to urgent care or the ER
- kids who can go to school pain-free because the dentists in our town accept Medicaid
- lots of kids and teens having checkups to pick up conditions early and to keep them healthy, avoiding complications and costs in the future.

Nearly all of our Medicaid recipients' parents have jobs. They just don't have full-time jobs that provide health insurance for their children. Many families who have private insurance have trouble paying copays for medications and treatments.

If Graham-Cassidy passes, there is no question that these children will not have adequate healthcare due to cuts to Medicaid, lifetime caps or loss of protection for preexisting conditions.

- Patients will end up using the ER for preventable illnesses (like asthma exacerbations) that could have been treated with medication at home
- Many babies will surpass their "lifetime cap" while still in the hospital. So will anyone with cancer, arthritis, or other illnesses requiring costly medications.
- All those kids with asthma have a preexisting condition. "Available and affordable" insurance is laughable if insurance companies set costs for patients.

As a pediatrician and mother, I believe that healthcare is a fundamental right. "Obamacare" - and Medicaid - are not perfect, but they should be fixed and not destroyed. There is so much that could be done to contain costs

without risking the lives of millions of people. It will take work and research and negotiation to do this; rushing to pass this bill will only hurt children and families.

Please use any influence you have to defeat this bill. We deserve better.

Thank you,

Lori Balaban MD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Hollis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Hollis [REDACTED]
Date: September 24, 2017 10:06:27 PM
To: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov
Subject:

Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
Karen Hollis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Last minute changes to the Graham-Cassidy bill have made a bad bill even worse, further opening the door for tens of millions of Americans to be charged exorbitant fees for pre-existing conditions over which they have no control, lifting payments caps for patients, and decimating Medicaid.

GOP politicians have openly said that passing any bill matters more than the content of the bill, so that they can "fulfill a campaign promise" to repeal and replace. This callous disregard for the health and well-being of Americans is appalling beyond belief. And the underlying drive of the bill is clearly a tax break for the wealthy.

Besides this, states which complied with the ACA and extended Medicaid, increasing the percentage of their populations who have affordable and comprehensive insurance, are being financially penalized as more money is funneled to states which refused the Medicaid expansion.

Businesses which did not comply with the ACA are given a retroactive exemption dating back two years.

This bill penalizes the sick, the elderly, the disabled, and all women for not being young, male, and healthy, disregarding the fact that young males have accidents and injuries at a higher rate (which is why their car insurance is more expensive) and that we are all of us one illness, one complication, one unforeseen accident, away from being put into a "high risk" category and finding it impossible to afford insurance.

The fact that Congress is trying to push this bill through under the budget process so as to need fewer votes, that they are not waiting for a proper CBO score, that there have not been public hearings, that it was not a bipartisan process, and that the President openly harassed opponents of the bill make it even more abhorrent and unAmerican.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Mindt Howell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal the ACA

To My Representatives:

The current bill to repeal the ACA is irresponsible without a thorough study of financial and human impact. It is also irresponsible to create a massive program without hearings and input from professionals in the health fields.

Our government representatives are playing politics with human lives. Our lives. The lives of our loved ones. I know the devastation that can - and does - happen when someone lacks medical care. My diabetic husband died of a heart attack while he waited out his 2 years for medical coverage after being granted disability benefits. He had had chest pains the week before and made an appointment with his doctor which he later canceled because he had no money to pay his bill. I can say from personal experience that no American family should suffer like this. His death changed everything about my then 8 year old son's life. Unnecessarily.

Do the right thing for Americans. Protect us - vote no on this repeal vote this week. You'll sleep better for it at night knowing you've made a positive contribution to families like mine.

Karen Mindt Howell

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: lisa arden <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

As a small business owner, I have seen decelerating increases in health insurance since adoption of the ACA. Without question ACA has helped and allowed me to provide insurance to my employees.

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.

Lisa Arden
Huntington NY

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally Dixon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. I am a resident of Oregon and am concerned that I will not have affordable access to healthcare if Graham-Cassidy-Heller passes. I have preexisting conditions, and although I work I do not get healthcare from my employer. I rely on the ACA for healthcare.

Sally Dixon
Sunriver, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: rprieto23 [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save 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,

Roberto Prieto
Los Angeles, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Worth [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

Thank you for asking for the public's comments on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller amendment - we appreciate the opportunity to add our voice to this vital debate.

We are strongly opposed to Graham-Cassidy and want the Congress to work in bipartisan fashion through regular order to improve the Affordable Care Act. The GOP's many short-sighted and reckless attempts to repeal the ACA, gutting Medicaid and patient protections in the process, must stop. Truly, when the entire medical community (Doctors, Insurers, Advocacy Groups, etc.) ALL speak out against your legislation it seems a pretty good sign that you need to stop.

Further - If, as we've read, you are intent on repealing the ACA only to satisfy demands of your big dollar donors - given that the medical community and majority of the public oppose your effort, we suggest that perhaps you'd do well to find new donors, those who don't want to hurt millions of our citizens.

Sincerely,
Kathy A. Worth
Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alison Neufeld [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy Bill

From: Alison Neufeld <[REDACTED]>
Date: September 25, 2017 at 12:18:44 AM EDT
To: GHCcomments@finance.senate.gov
Subject: **Opposing Graham-Cassidy Bill**

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I need quality, affordable healthcare. I am not old enough for Medicare and do not have employer-provided insurance. Because I am 61, my premiums will sky-rocket if the ACA is repealed. I have pre-existing conditions. How will I get coverage if these protections are removed by this bill? I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. As Larry Summers has correctly said: **“If you pass this bill, people will die.”**

Sincerely,
Alison Neufeld
Athens, Georgia
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Doug Sherry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Do you realize what will happen if any of your ridiculous ideas for healthcare were to pass? Are you all clueless or what? You expect the American people to be able to just lie down and take your crap you keep throwing at us? Meanwhile North Korea is becoming a total threat to our country and you people are trying to kill us with bad healthcare bills??? Are you not the enemy of the people?? We are not stupid. There is a small percent of people that are clueless and you are ridiculous to think that that's enough support for your clown show. Stop it already. You are supposed to be supporting the US and we do not see this at all happening in the white house. We see your own personal agendas that have nothing to do with the people that live in this country. And now you want to let us all die in the streets. This country is becoming 3rd world thanks to most of you. You've forgotten what your job is in the white house. And you are an embarrassment to us as well as a big joke to the rest of the world.

Doug and Sherry
US OF A

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Hollis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 AM
To: gchcomments

Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
Karen Hollis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Last minute changes to the Graham-Cassidy bill have made a bad bill even worse, further opening the door for tens of millions of Americans to be charged exorbitant fees for pre-existing conditions over which they have no control, lifting payments caps for patients, and decimating Medicaid.

GOP politicians have openly said that passing any bill matters more than the content of the bill, so that they can "fulfill a campaign promise" to repeal and replace. This callous disregard for the health and well-being of Americans is appalling beyond belief. And the underlying drive of the bill is clearly a tax break for the wealthy.

Besides this, states which complied with the ACA and extended Medicaid, increasing the percentage of their populations who have affordable and comprehensive insurance, are being financially penalized as more money is funneled to states which refused the Medicaid expansion.

Businesses which did not comply with the ACA are given a retroactive exemption dating back two years.

This bill penalizes the sick, the elderly, the disabled, and all women for not being young, male, and healthy, disregarding the fact that young males have accidents and injuries at a higher rate (which is why their car insurance is more expensive) and that we are all of us one illness, one complication, one unforeseen accident, away from being put into a "high risk" category and finding it impossible to afford insurance.

The fact that Congress is trying to push this bill through under the budget process so as to need fewer votes, that they are not waiting for a proper CBO score, that there have not been public hearings, that it was not a bipartisan process, and that the President openly harassed opponents of the bill make it even more abhorrent and unAmerican.

Karen Hollis

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy York [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Inadequate Graham Cassidy bill

To Whom this may concern,

It is logical that we need health care coverage for everybody given that everyday the public is exposed to toxic pollution of our air, water and food.

A single payer plan would greatly reduce administration costs and would have improved efficiencies.

Pre-condition coverage is a must in any health care bill. Instead of the Graham Cassidy bill, a Medicare for all with expanded coverage for ears, eyes and mouth.

Please reject this proposal. Certainly the Senate can come up with a fairer and more affordable health care bill by working together.

Best wishes,
Nancy York
Fort Collins, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Perrault [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy.

Cant wait. Pass it NOW. People are Suffering NOW. Fight about/ change details later. You are not Affected. The ordinary American citizens are. Stop the Suffering NOW. Forget partisan politics for NOW. Can go back to that when we have the luxury to. It is treasonous to not pass this NOW! You have a sworn duty to the American people. The suffering people will CHEER you and vote for you in the future. If doesn't work out that well in some states, the people can shift their low approval ratings to their governors. Do your job NOW!
Thank you NOW!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Madeleine Rylie Carr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: On Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom it May Concern,

That would be all of us, every human being living in this beautiful country, this bill concerns every single one. I am deeply opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill, for personal reasons, but moreover for the well-being of this country, economically and physically. Everyone of us gets sick - the old, the adolescent, and the newborns, and this bill would not allow affordable, sufficient coverage to ensure the safety of your very constituents! This attempt has been made over and over to have your way with the American public, sucking their very lifeblood to fill your pockets. That is the American way, you say, as the Devil whispers in your ear. This plan would put millions of lives deeply in jeopardy, and many would die.

My mother was diagnosed with two forms of micro bacterial tuberculosis ten years ago - she would not be alive today were it not for affordable, available healthcare. I myself could fall ill any day with no warning - as a 26 year old living in New York City, I would not be able to care for myself under your plan. I would not be able to afford the available health insurance itself, let alone the bills I would need to pay before reaching my deductible. Again, however, the bigger issue is your larger public, particularly those at and below the poverty line, the disabled, the elderly, the women, and the oppressed minorities who will be at risk of being turned away due to discrimination. Hey, did you notice -- that's actually most of your population. Though you'd prefer to pretend we weren't here, we are, and you cannot kill us off.

I OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL.

With Sincerity & Venom,
Madeleine Carr
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: mel webster [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Mel Webster
North Reading, Massachusetts

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shay Shealy West [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing - 09-25-17

My name is Shay Shealy West. My disabled son and I live in [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Graham-Cassidy will DESTROY healthcare for my ENTIRE family.

My 16 year-old son has autism and intellectual disability, both of which are lifetime disabilities. He will never be able to live independently. He relies on MEDICAID. Capping MEDICAID through block grants will undoubtedly result in rationing of care by the states, ultimately resulting in CUTTING help to the disabled.

Both of my parents, who also live in SC's 2nd CD, have MEDICARE, and have substantial pre-existing conditions. And I have ACA/Marketplace-sourced health insurance ("Obamacare"). I, too, have more than one of the pre-existing conditions that will be excluded from coverage by Graham-Cassidy.

Graham-Cassidy will cause ALL FOUR OF US TO LOSE HEALTH INSURANCE. And I know that MANY other South Carolinians will be in the same dire situation.

Wiping out healthcare for entire families should be enough reason why Graham-Cassidy should NOT PASS.

Please do the RIGHT THING by my family and ALL SOUTH CAROLINA CONSTITUENTS and VOTE NO on Graham-Cassidy. Restore order to the Senate. Take time and thoughtfully discuss healthcare with ALL stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Shay shealy West

--

Shay Shealy West west.shay@gmail.com mobile 803.687.1387

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Bailey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Hello! My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a close family member with a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis, a preexisting condition. S/he is working now and has insurance through work, and expensive medication has the MS under control. But suppose at some point the condition forces him/her to leave the job. Then Graham-Cassidy would result in skyrocketing premiums because of the preexisting condition. Or, if a state allowed insurance companies to place lifetime caps, the expensive medication, annual MRIs, etc, would rapidly max out the cap. My relative would likely die from what is currently a manageable condition, or go bankrupt trying to live with it, if Graham Cassidy were to pass. It would be heartless and cruel to support this bill. PLEASE vote no.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Let Sen. Alexander and Sen. Murray go back to work on shoring up the exchanges. Allow other bipartisan efforts to proceed. Heed your esteemed colleague Sen. McCain's call for hearings, debate, amendments, and so forth. His years of experience and wisdom about how the Senate works best should not be ignored.

Thank you for reading.

Sincerely, Rebecca Bailey

Reading, Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary G Briggs [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill: Please OPPOSE

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. The bill would cause between 21-32 million people to lose their health coverage (though without a full CBO score that estimates changes in premiums and coverage based on changes proposed, it's hard to be confident of the numbers). Medicaid block grants are a terrible alternative to our current system, and they would harm children from low-income families, seniors, people with disabilities. Additionally, the protections currently provided under the ACA must not be weakened even slightly.

I urge the Senate to continue developing the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. In the meantime, steps must be taken to stabilize the healthcare markets, including more outreach for the enrollment period (sabotaged by the current administration).

Mary Briggs
Davis, CA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phoebe Thurman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Good evening.

I am a veteran with many health issues that relate to my service for this country, and I am seriously concerned that this bill is being pushed through without all of the necessary information to allow the senate to make rational and properly informed decisions for their constituents. While it would be ideal to have both sides work together to provide a bill that works for everyone (or even to create a bill that would correct the issues with the affordable care act), I see that may not be possible at this time.

Therefore it is imperative that we have as many of the facts possible, including what the scoring of this bill would be, in order to have full understanding of the full cost for us as constituents and for the country.

We as veterans deserve to know how this will affect us, and what we stand to possibly lose; we deserve nothing less than your complete honesty.

The people are watching, and veterans are watching as well. We all deserve the facts, the truth, and the best possible healthcare options possible.

Veterans are tired of just being told how much we are supported by the congress and how thankful you are for our service, only to have the benefits we earned slowly (and secretly) stripped away. It's time we were shown how much support the congress really has for us. Actions always speak louder than words, so please do right by us, and those who have chosen you to represent them on the national stage.

Respectfully,

Phoebe Thurman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Baily [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that I was denied short term disability coverage for the birth of my daughter as I had switched jobs and my new company's medical plan considered pregnancy as a pre-existing condition. Because of this, we were placed in an unreasonable hardship and I had to go back to work after taking a very short maternity leave. I strongly believe that no one should experience what I had to go through. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Mary Baily

Portland, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Wilson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Comments

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am a single woman I am a small business owner. I am currently on the affordable care act and would not be able to afford coverage without it. In fact, my premiums were cut by 2/3 when I was able to get ACA coverage.

It concerns me that the Senate is going to vote on the Graham-Cassidy legislation without due process and a CBO score.

I have heard that if Graham-Cassidy is approved, 32 million Americans would be without healthcare, pre-existing conditions would not be covered, and many women, children, disabled, and elderly would lose their care.

This is not legislation that I think is in the best interest of the American people. Healthcare is not a partisan issue and should not be rushed through for political agendas.

Please do not vote to approve the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

Sincerely,

Heather Wilson

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: christian may [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller. This bill 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 am one of the 32 million who will lose health coverage under graham cassidy. before the ACA, I was unable to purchase insurance at any price because I was a diabetic. since the ACA has gone into effect, i incurred a spinal injury which has left me disabled. I have medical bills in the thousands every month but I'm working hard to rehabilitate myself and get back to work. without medical insurance I will never be able to get back to work and my fate will be sealed.

I will die.

sincerely,
christian may
los angeles, ca

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid (which is helping keep my 74-year-old father who has Alzheimer's disease alive & cared for) and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Jenna Gospodarek
Kenosha, Wisconsin

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher Darken [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the bill known as Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill that was recently being considered by the Senate HELP Committee. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million Americans to lose their health coverage while also destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, including seniors and people with disabilities. The United States Senate and House of Representatives must do better than this.

Christopher Darken
Wesley Chapel, Florida

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Urban Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is a terrible idea and everyone knows it

Graham-Cassidy is a terrible idea and everyone knows it. I won't take the time to rehash arguments we've all seen from every side of this issue. Every leader in this country knows that Graham-Cassidy is bad for America because it is bad for the people. A few leaders don't care, so they're pretending they think it's a good idea. Please shut them down, for everyone's sake.

Thank you,
- Urban Martin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fortney, Jeffrey Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 AM
To: gchcomments

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Jeff Fortney
Mt. Pleasant, MI

Sent from my Courier Pigeons

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eric Anches [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Eric Anches
West Hollywood, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: E Anches [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Ed Warren
Santa Monica, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debby Bowersock [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

Dear
Senators,

I personally would like you to vote No for the healthcare bill that is now before you. I have used the ACA for my personal health insurance for the past 3 years. I believe it was very beneficial to me. I had a silver plan. I got the subsidy and I had a high deductible but it was tallied as part of each bill so it covered most of my health insurance needs. I have been on a limited income since 2014. As a nurse I don't expect insurance to pay for everything but I'm not sure most people understand that. I do believe that the system does need some tweaks. This is not unusual and I believe with a bipartisan approach that can be accomplished.

The cost for a friend of mine whose husband has leukemia and just lost his job and his insurance is going to be \$1,800/mo. They are not rich and have 3 children and she makes \$12/hr, her jobs insurance doesn't offer the doctors he needs. They make too much for Medicaid. We need Medicare for all but not sure you folks are there yet, unfortunately.

We have invested billions if not trillions on the implementation of the ACA. The government, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, nursing homes, etc. all had to get the basic infrastructure set up. The rural hospitals are just getting by the skin of the teeth now. To throw that all away and start over is a travesty. I am not sure how you can look at this bill and think it's good for the sluggish economy. The bill before you is a slap in the face to the American public.

People with pre-existing conditions need coverage. Let's see that's high blood pressure, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, prostate problems, cardiac conditions (young and old), congestive heart failure, juvenile diabetes, multiple sclerosis, high cholesterol, high triglyceride, thyroid problems, cancers (lots of different kinds), I could fill the page. If you take a pill a day for something you probably have a preexisting condition.

Oh let's let the states take care of it. The grants you are proposing won't cover anything. If people want to travel it might not be so easy because maybe your state doesn't want to pay another state's rates. As a resident of upstate New York for many years I saw this first hand. The closest trauma hospital was in Burlington, Vermont. They got to the point that they didn't want to treat NY Medicaid patients because it was very slow at paying.

I am not sure why any of you think this is a Republican or Democratic issue. It is being a human being and being concerned for your fellow man, woman and child. You all need to grow up and get over yourselves.

Thank You Deborah Bowersock [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: crystal carpenter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions, and disabilities, is my husband has suffered from migraines for 23 plus years. Daily awful migraines. Then last year he suffered a stroke. Three months later he was diagnosed with dementia. This has already hurt our family. My husband is only 55 years old and has been disabled for 23 years. I retired from Verizon to care for him but as I am only 57 I cant collect social security. I was in the military but in 1979 so no combat and no benefits. We are currently attempting to live on 1450 a month minus health care costs for my insurance and the 120 a month out of his ss. My son who works in food service at minimum wage lives with us because he cant afford not to. He also has custody of his 16 year old son who was living inner city and not reading. He is now doing good. Our whole family will totally blow up if this is passed. Please don't do this. Please work across the aisle to come up with a solution that works. Dumping the program just to erase everything with Obama name is not smart business practice. Do it right. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Crystal A Carpenter

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allyson Mathis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments from a voter for the Committee Hearing

I am a member of the public, registered voter and a US citizen who would like to provide comments for the Committee hearing on the GrahamCassidy bill. Like all Americans, I would be impacted by and put at risk due to the provisions in this bill.

First, I want to note that the GrahamCassidy bill is not being considered within Regular Order of the Senate and that the Senate stopped a bipartisan process to push this bill. The American people demand Regular Order. Second, this hearing in itself does not and cannot be regular order. Two of the witnesses are even authors of the bill. Also, a single hearing the day after a new version of the bill was released is obviously inadequate. Second, there will not be a CBO score at all of the new version, and only a partial one of the old version. Third, there will not be time for debate (we hold this truth to be self-evident, 90 seconds of debate is inadequate). Fourth, Senators will not have met with their constituents on the matter. Fifth, the witness lists doesn't include adequate nonpartisan experts on the matter.

Below are a number of screen grabs of information produced by experts in healthcare policy that are widely available. The statements have been fact checked and are the result of analysis (these were before the revision released late this evening. Quick analysis by experts suggests that GrahamCassidy 2.0 is even worse for people who need health insurance, for states, and for the nation). It continues to take massive amounts of funds away from the healthcare system, it removes protections on preexisting conditions, and contains a large number of obvious bribes to try to get targeted Senators to support it.

I am strongly opposed to GrahamCassidy and against all partisan efforts to ram a bill through the Senate in anything but the Regular Order.

In short, this is no way to govern. I call for a bipartisan process with Regular Order to address our healthcare system.

Allyson Mathis
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 AM
To: gchcomments

All Americans deserve health care. One with coverage for everything at a reasonable cost. Charging thousands of dollars more for pre-existing conditions will be a hardship for millions of Americans. You would think that in our great country that we would not have one of the most expensive health care systems and we don't even have the best health care. Yes, the ACA is not perfect but it needs to be repaired not abandoned. I am on Medicare and a very fixed income. I'm also a diabetic and have asthma. I can't afford to pay any more for my insurance. Rents are high in Colorado and if my insurance goes up it will force me to choose between medication, food, or a place to live. I'm too old to adapt to living on the streets. The Graham-Lindsay bill is not a health care bill. It is a wealth care bill for the rich who do not need it.

Thank you.
Carol Roark

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sabrina Wind [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not take away ACA

Why don't we believe that health care should be considered a right of citizenship? Like police protection? Why isn't everyone's lives important?

Sabrina

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mia Trachinger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter, age thirteen has a pre-existing condition. She has type 1 Diabetes, an auto-immune disease. She is and will be insulin dependent for the rest of her life. To pay for her insulins without insurance currently costs over \$800/month. For her, a child to face a life of being discriminated against because of a pre-existing condition and be worried as an adult about financial ruin for the foreseeable future makes my heart break. She is a good student, a kind person and wants to leave the world a better place than she found it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I ask all senators to please reject the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,
Mia Trachinger

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KMH Hightower [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Kristin Hightower
Nashville, Tennessee

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Fabian [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy, vote no

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

My pre-existing conditions under this legislation would make my already exorbitant monthly premiums rise even higher.
Why are we being penalized for things that a majority of us cannot control?

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

Sincerely,
Beth Fabian
Houston, PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dominique Zeltzman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have two life threatening preexisting conditions and cannot afford to gamble that my state will protect me. I also have a 12 year old daughter. Since I work freelance, I need to have affordable health care for her.

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dominique Zeltzman

3 North Rose Street 21224

Dominique Zeltzman

This email sent from a cell phone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jodie Gualco [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Angry

This healthcare bill should not be political. Are you aware that the MAJORITY of Americans distrust the Congress and Senate because of this bill and the fact that you all support a dangerous President? I have never been this angry.STOP!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilyn Spingarn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill concerns me on two levels - as a public school teacher and how it will negatively impact some of my families and personally how it will be devastating to my son's girl friend. She suffers from an anxiety disorder and her well-being and ability to hold down a job is dependent on the drugs she is able to get through Medicaid. She, and the families I serve, have to be able to rely on quality, affordable healthcare which accepts pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a BIPARTISAN Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it. This is not a game. People's lives are dependent on the representatives we send to Congress to act in good faith. I expect all the people in Congress to work together to put the common good ahead of self-serving short-term accomplishments. We need a well thought out plan with wide support which will be a win-win for the people of the United States, not some shoddy piece of legislation that is pushed through to meet a deadline.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Spingarn

Alamo, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't pass this bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a physician and I have seen thousands of patients whose lives were improved and even saved by having access to healthcare because of the provisions of the ACA.

Passing the Graham-Cassidy bill would impact millions of people negatively.

My husband had a medical emergency two years ago. Because of the provisions of the ACA, we are not bankrupt.

I worry for myself, my husband, and my children. If the ACA changes, will we be able to afford insurance? Will my husband even be able to get insurance? Will we have to sell everything we own to afford care if another unexpected emergency arises?

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you,
Dr. Tracy Greene
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy S. Olson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee, I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. Nancy Olson, Minneapolis, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Redman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Lisa Redman
Columbus, OH

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erivetta Ward [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Erivetta L. Ward
St. Louis, Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christina Dubois [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

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

Sincerely,

Christina Dubois
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dee Ann Wylie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 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 think it is rushed and I think fixing something rather than repealing it may cost the rich less in tax breaks but benefit more Americans who are your constituents and you don't know what ramifications it will have if it hasn't been reviewed thoroughly. Not a smart move. My family would love our insurance. Not cool. You should have the same health insurance as your constituents

Dee Ann Wylie

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: C.H. Romatowski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on Graham-Cassidy

As a purchaser of ACA insurance and a registered voter in Virginia's 10th Congressional District, I write to urge you to vote no on any health care bill that permits exclusion or rate hikes for pre-existing conditions, or which permits yearly or lifetime caps. Enacting these policies will literally leave people to die.

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

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

Urgently,
Catherine Romatowski

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Cerullo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 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,

Jessica Cerullo

Walla Walla, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: shelby koning [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

As the parent of a child with a disability who would likely be in an institution of one kind or another if he lost access to mental health care and medications to manage his health for even a brief time this is very personal to me.

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller as it 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.

Shelby Koning
Salem, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Cervene [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. This is why I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. If this bill passes, I cannot imagine how my mother, who is 82, will be able to afford healthcare. As many seniors do, she has a panoply of pre-existing conditions, including rheumatoid and osteo arthritis, osteoporosis, ankylosing spondylitis, and macular degeneration. All of these conditions are under control thanks to affordable medical coverage. She can also currently afford the medication she needs to take daily.

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

Thank you,

Amy Cervene
Highlands Ranch, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Alexandria Escalante
St. David, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Francis Opila [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hi,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am 63 years old, self-employed, and use the ACA Marketplace for my health insurance. It is very important to me that pre-existing conditions are covered. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Frank Opila

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Clayton Lambert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Your name]
[City, State]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christy March <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Christy March, RN, BSN
Greenwood, IN

Sent from my iPhone
Christy March

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zach Coble <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham Cassidy legislation

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill. I am a disabled person living and working in Tucson Arizona. My disabilities cause mean I am one of the 2.76 million people in my state with pre-existing conditions that may lose protections from discrimination under this legislation.

As a child, I was very lucky. My parents always figured out a way to obtain health insurance for me despite the exorbitant premiums. My disabilities of cerebral palsy and decreased kidney function meant that I needed many medical services including surgeries, physical therapy, bracing, and medical tests to check on kidney function.

It was always a fight for my parents to find any insurance coverage to meet my medical needs. Medicaid wasn't an option. Their income was too great since they owned a small business.

I worried about my future healthcare needs when I became an adult. The Affordable Care Act was a godsend. I knew with the passage of that bill that at least I would be able to obtain some sort of affordable healthcare and would not be denied coverage due to my disabilities. This legislation also made me feel valued as a human being. It made me feel recognized as a full citizen and not just as a burden to society.

The Graham Cassidy Bill will cause regression. I'm afraid that states will be motivated to apply for waivers from pre-existing condition protections and Essential Health Benefits requirements. I am worried that the battles my parents fought for decent healthcare will now become my battles.

I'm also concerned about my future healthcare needs. I desire to live in the community for the rest of my life. I own my own home and want to keep it. However, there is a high probability that I will need long-term services and supports to remain in my home. Private health insurance does not pay for these supports and services. Medicaid does. 47,000 disabled and elderly Arizonans currently receive these services through Medicaid. These services and supports are essential for these Arizonans to remain in their homes, be with their loved ones, go to school and contribute to the economy.

These services are optional under Medicaid law. Institutional or nursing home care is not optional. Per capita caps would decrease Medicaid funding to Arizona. Political leaders will be faced with an intractable problem. They will have to raise taxes or they will have cut these services. People will end up in nursing or other institutional care because this is their only option. This is no way to live. This is no way to treat members of our society.

I ask that you take my story into account. Millions of disabled people and I rely on your judgement and consideration. Please think about us before voting for this legislation that devalues our lives and our futures.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,
Zach Coble

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Cannon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator, Jon Tester (Tester); Sen. Steve Daines (Daines)
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Legislation

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject subject healthcare plan proposal in favor of a bipartisan effort and subsequent bill to be developed by the Senate HELP committee.

Many, many millions will lose coverage entirely; pre-existing conditions are not protected; caps would likely be unrealistic; opioid treatment is wholly inadequate; and, Planned Parenthood federal funding is eliminated (to name a few of many financial negative consequences). It is evident that the elderly, disabled, sick, poor, and children will be disproportionately impacted. Disregarding the health and well-being of citizens is not an American value!

It appears that the revision put forth tonight blatantly bribes states that have withheld needed votes for passage. This bill has not been subjected to regular order, including hearings; a full CBO (and now maybe a partial due to 11th hour changes) is not available; and, all reputable medical associations and impacted industries oppose this bill. Governor Bullock, my Governor, has also registered his concerns and supports going forward in a bipartisan manner.

Legislation that affects 1/6 of our economy and impacts the health and well-being of tens of millions of Americans should not be thrown together to meet a deadline (reconciliation) and for the sole purposes of (1) politically undoing whatever Obama did; (2) better enabling tax "cuts" for the wealthy and creating massive windfalls for corporate entities; and, (3) ensuring continuing political donations from the Kochs, Mercers, or whoever "owns" individual congressional members.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Cannon
Bigfork, Montana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: 9/30/16 tried to order with free shipping! It adds shipping charges ?
<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Willow Green
[Buffalo,N.Y.]
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bea Morrison [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Bea Morrison
Orinda, CA

in legislation that could positively impact each and every American. This would surely serve the Republican congress going forward. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Greenleaf

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Greenleaf <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

My name is Cynthia Greenleaf and I am a resident of Albany, CA. I am writing today to state my strong opposition to the Graham Cassidy health care bill in any version. I am especially opposed to offering particular states like Alaska or Maine special benefits not offered to other states in the Union. I am asking that you work to fix the current problems with the ACA to prevent the so-called "death-spiral" of the insurance market exchanges and hardships for small businesses across America, instead of continuing to work to jam through the repeal of the ACA with little thought, public input, or a CBO score. There is a bipartisan effort to come up with a real solution to the high costs of medical coverage while providing security to the Americans who sent you to Washington.

As a mother of three adult sons who all have pre-existing medical conditions, I am worried. Not for myself, but for them. My oldest son is a survivor of Hodgkin's Lymphoma and must be monitored closely for secondary cancers. While he currently has health insurance through his employer, were he ever to change jobs, his ongoing health care will be at risk, and he may not be able to afford the high-risk pools that will inevitably result. That is the best case. Alternatively, he may not be able to be insured at all, if states pursue and receive waivers for covering the many millions of Americans with pre-existing conditions. My middle son has Addison's Disease, the same auto-immune disorder that JFK had. If he misses a day of his medication, he may die. He cannot go without medical care. My youngest son is developmentally disabled and relies on Medicaid for his In Home Health Services, medical and dental care. If California loses federal Medicaid dollars, fewer dollars will be stretched thinner, and disabled adults like my son may lose care they depend on.

I also worry for my aging father who has had a heart condition, my sister who has had several biopsies and must be closely watched for the breast cancer that killed our mother, my friends who are survivors of breast cancer. Nearly everyone I know has so-called "pre-existing conditions." Will you impoverish them or sentence them to death because you are not willing to pay into a common pool, even though you and your children and your spouse and your neighbors could be struck with a life-threatening illness at any time? Surely not.

Yet I am hearing that there is a move afoot to change Graham Cassidy in order to convince the senators of Alaska, Arizona & Maine to vote for the bill by offering their states the benefits that will be taken away from other states. This is the height of hypocrisy. Americans are not fools. We know this maneuver makes no logical sense. We see it for what it is -- a crass move to win votes through bribery. These kinds of tricks are exactly why Congress has an approval rating in the teens.

I hope members of Congress do not want 22 or 24 million Americans to lose their insurance resulting in 24,000 to 44,000 American deaths a year. [The actual CBO ratings have yet to be shared with either the committee or the public.] I sincerely hope members of Congress want a bill focused on the very real problems of rising healthcare costs, and not merely tax breaks to wealthiest among us. Virtually every agency and stakeholder in the health industry has come out against this bill. To approve it would be a suicidal act for this Republican congress. Instead, working in a collaborative process with open hearings that include all stakeholders will result

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott Ickes [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

This bill is a terrible, murderous idea. Graham-Cassidy has almost no support from physicians' groups or hospital groups.

There are insurance companies that think this is a terrible idea!

I currently pay \$10,000 per year for health insurance for my family of five. My brother lives in South Carolina with suicidal depression and two kids. The medication he needs is unaffordable in the current set up and things will worsen, not improve, with Graham-Cassidy. Prices are lower in other countries, and could come down here with improvements in the ACA (and maybe even single payer), but not the current farce the Senate is considering. (No CBO score, no bipartisanship, no meaningful offers of replacement, and huge cuts to states - Minnesota for one - that are doing an admirable job of managing the costs of health care in this country for needy people.)

Tax the uber wealthy more and Fix the ACA!

Sincerely,
Scott Ickes

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy Hahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why the ACA matters

It protects millions with pre-existing conditions. It protects women so that pregnancy and other female issues are not pre-existing conditions. With Graham-Cassady all that will be eliminated, and people will go bankrupt when (not if) they have a medical event. Please protect the ACA.

Thank you.
Judy Hahn

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Mercer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare

Dear Senators of the Finance Committee:

PLEASE!! It's time to stop spending your valuable resources on these repeated attempts to repeal the ACA at all cost. We need you to kill the Graham Cassidy proposal now, and focus on bi-partisen solutions to improve the ACA. We all need excellent affordable health care like you have!

There is nothing more important that you will ever do for your constituency.

Thank you,

Kathleen Mercer
Kirkland, WA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Murali <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

PLEASE! Reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller.

Graham-Cassidy-Heller is NOT good for American or Americans.

Thank you,

~ S. Levine
Santa Fe, NM USA

[Your name]
[City, State]

--

--
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christy March <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Christy March, RN, BSN
Greenwood, IN

Sent from my iPhone
Christy March
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan Baird [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Megan Baird
Yuma, Arizona

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: wendellkling <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

The Graham Cassidy Bill is short sighted and harmful to the people of the United States.

In a country of our stature everyone should have access to quality healthcare.

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

Sincerely,
Wendell M. Kling
San Diego, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandy Lane [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The bill is just like other TrumpCare bills in that it destroys Medicaid as we know it by turning Medicaid into a capped system. This hurts children with disabilities, seniors, and even victims of natural disasters like Harvey and Irma. It also takes away funding to help people afford health insurance through the marketplace. Offering opposing Senators "deals" which would make the bill more palatable for their states is immoral. As is Congressmen and women having a far better policy. No score, no passage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sandra Lane
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Felder [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal effort

Please, please don't let them take away our ACA. My daughter, who has cerebral palsy, MUST have health insurance, but can't earn enough to pay for it due to the way her body is affected. Despite being in a wheelchair, my daughter went on her own from our home in Alabama to NYU, earned an advanced degree, and became a college professor. If the ACA is repealed, she will be forced to quit work and rely on Medicaid to provide her health insurance. Why must she throw away her life's dream so that rich people can get a tax cut? Is this how we reward disabled people who want to be independent and support themselves? WE WANT THE ACA!!!

Sincerely,
Donna Felder
Madison, Alabama

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC bill

This bill has been condemned by most patient advocacy groups, major insurers, 50 Medicaid Directors, and a bipartisan group of Governors. The loss of significant protections for persons with PED is unconscionable. Stripping away Medicaid dollars from children with disabilities and sick elderly is unethical. Creating lifetime caps is a death sentence. I am baffled as to why Senate would vote on a bill that has not been fully vetted by the CBO. Is a political "win" so important that willing to create chaos in an industry that makes up 1/6 of our economy?

This bill was rushed, had no bipartisan input, used few industry experts, and has undergone little public debate. This entire process is wrong. Offering Alaska and Maine "bribes" for a yes vote is wrong as it potentially leaves majority of Americans in the lurch.

Twenty-four percent of Americans support GC. A majority oppose. Who exactly are you serving? There is a clear message - don't pass GC yet the Senate GOP is rushing a historically unpopular bill to the floor for a vote.

I wish more Senators were as brave as Senator McCain. We are all weary of the political gaming and calloused and cynical approach to governing. People need Leaders and a HC system that offers the same HC access and affordability as you all enjoy.

Vote NO on GC.

Regards,

Kim Henke RN,MPA, MSN, CCRN-CSC

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Cullen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Chris Cullen
San Francisco, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Lynn Garrett [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

It is critical to the health of every American that the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill not pass the Senate. Bribing senators for their votes is evidence that the bill is untenable; a bill that truly served the American people would not require such actions by the GOP.

Costs for my insurance could go as high as \$16,000. My social security check is just over \$19,000. Obviously, I will have to give up my healthcare if this bill passes and my rates are inflated. Please do not make me choose between my health and my ability to buy groceries and keep a roof over my head.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joyce Lynn Garrett, PhD
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Building Capacity of Schools and Non-Profits

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ADorra [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Amy Dorra
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anahi Galante [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: REJECT THE BILL THAT ATTEMPTS TO REPEAL THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT!!!

32 Million Americans could lose coverage because of the radical change this administration wants to make to Medicaid.

You want to diminish funding for every state in a 90 seconds of debate? If you want to keep your campaign pledges and promises start by keeping your pledge to **touch NOT Medicaid benefits.**

Please, please, please!!!! REJECT THIS BILL!!!

Sincerely,

Anahi Galante
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

This is the day that God has made for you and me, to be glad in it! Rejoice and live passionately!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill

Senate Finance Committee,

I am 41 and self-employed as dog walker/pet sitter. I was being charged \$850/month with a \$5,000 deductible plus at least \$400 for medication for Bipolar Disorder, Generalized Anxiety Disorder, and PTSD. My dad had to pay because I don't even make that much. He has since passed away from cancer. The ACA has truly been a life saver. I was told I qualify for Medicaid but Virginia is not offering it to anyone new because of their budget deficiency. The ACA has cut my health insurance payments in half, lowered my deductible, and pays for my generic mental health medications.

If the ACA is taken away, I will die. I cannot afford my prescription medications. They keep me stable so I don't want to commit suicide, help me be able to work and be a productive member of society.

I don't want to kill myself but I know I would if I were not medicated. Please don't take away the ACA. I have several pre-existing conditions. I need to be on birth control for a cyst on my ovary. Will that be taken out as well?

My life is in your hands and that's very scary for me.

Katherine Souder
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deanne Scott <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: improve the ACA, do not repeal it.

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

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

Respectfully,

Deanne Scott
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Peck [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

gchcomments@finance.senate.gov

Dear Senators,
Please come up with a healthcare plan that covers more citizens, not less. Vote no on Graham Cassidy bill.
Thank you,
Rebecca Peck

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jess Smyth Jameson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Strongly oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson amendment

Senate Finance Committee,

In no uncertain terms, I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson amendment.

We need bipartisan, comprehensive fixes to stabilize insurance markets and find ways to lower costs for consumers across all geographies, especially rural communities. I ask the members of this committee to support the bipartisan efforts that were taking place in the Senate HELP committee under the leadership of Senators Alexander and Murray.

Healthcare is a complex issue that requires rising above partisan politics. There can be substantive disagreements about the best ways to approach all aspects of the challenge, but lives should not be put on the line simply to fulfill a campaign slogan. America needs our leaders to put country over party and focus on bold innovations, not destruction. Gutting Medicaid - the largest provider of health insurance in America, relied upon by millions of seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities - is not the answer.

Furthermore, to pass this amendment/bill without non-partisan, independent analysis (such as a CBO of the exact text/language being voted on) would be legislative malpractice. Not only are millions of lives at stake, but, at a minimum, 1/6th of our economy will be affected. While having this hearing is a good first step, it is simply that - a first step in a process that is, by design, deliberative and thorough. Such a complex issue requires transparency and constructive debate to yield the most effective bipartisan solutions.

Please, do not vote for the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson amendment. Return to regular order. Support strong bipartisan solutions. Reauthorize funding for the Community Health Centers Fund (CHCF) and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Thank you,

Jessica Jameson
Nevada resident

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Heit Jackson-Scott [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy constituent input

As a small business owner, purchaser of ACA insurance and a registered voter in California's 20th Congressional District, I write to urge you to vote NO on any health care bill that permits exclusion or rate hikes for pre-existing conditions, or which permits yearly or lifetime caps. Enacting these policies will literally leave people to die.

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

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

Urgently,
Jessica Heit Jackson-Scott

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy O'Connell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senator Hatch, Senator Wyden and members of the committee:

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill hurts the most vulnerable members of our society. The cuts to Medicaid mean that children, the disabled, seniors and our veterans (to name a few) will be without health insurance. This isn't how the United States of America treats its citizens.

Frankly, I'm shocked that a bill that has such far reaching consequences is being voted upon without multiple hearings, public comment or a CBO score. This is not good governance.

It is simply unconscionable to affect millions of people's lives to score a political "victory". Losing one's health insurance is devastating.

Please vote against this bill. It's un-American.

Sincerely,

Kathy O'Connell
Burbank, CA
oconnellkathya@gmail.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trudy Silveira [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal ACA Graham Cassidy Bill

Say no to this horrible bill designed to do harm not to heal. This bill will reduce access to care by many members of my family including myself. We have inherited health conditions, some are elderly and others disabled. We need respect and more insurance not less.

Meet my family;

35 years old granddaughter stage 4 lung cancer who will lose her job and insurance in one month.

86 year old mom living on \$700 a month (trailer park rent takes \$300). Medicaid expansion helps buy her prescriptions; it is her only long term care option.

5 year old grandson on the Exchange.

52 year old son-in-law was saved by free annual physical that found dangerous health condition.

46 year old daughter with devastating Lupus survives on \$600 a month and health care from the Medicaid expansion.

45 year old son with mental disease- Medicaid expansion.

Medicare provides many free services required by ACA to my husband including immunizations.

25 year old granddaughter needs birth control. Shes goes to nursing college and she works but she has a type of anxiety which flares with her monthly cycle.

I have rheumatoid arthritis with complications.

Please know we have worked hard and try to help others but no one I know can save enough money to pay the horrible prices charged by doctors, hospitals and pharmacy.

We need comprehensive healthcare for the many- it is a public health issue if we don't.

Trudy and John Silveira
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

To: Senate Finance Committee

Vote No on the Graham Cassidy Bill.

Watch this video to appreciate that 1000s WILL DIE! All Americans need affordable healthcare with no life time caps or pre existing condition exclusions. Work to fix ACA so that MILLIONS will not lose healthcare.

Linda Gerena
Forest Hills NY
[REDACTED]

<https://youtu.be/FLrCgSPBo-o>

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Noell Burk [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern,

Thank you for the opportunity yo offer comments regarding the proposal before you. I am a single, middle-aged woman with asthma, multiple allergies, fibromyalgia, and arthritis. Without adequate health insurance coverage for my preexisting conditions, I could easily become unable to perform the work I do for my home business, become even more disabled and homebound than I already am, or even die.

As an American with preexisting conditions, a woman, and a concerned citizen, I implore you to vote **no** on Graham-Cassidy.

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, militarily, or diplomatically would pale in comparison. We do not honor our elders by leaving 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 profound hope that each of you will heed the voices of your 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 as a nation.

Sincerely,

Nancy Burk
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Suter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GOP Health care bill

I am 67 and on Medicare with a list of health issues and a community of citizens who will be victimized by the proposed bill. I am opposed to the bill and want it defeated by more than just a few votes. Our leaders need to know that they work for citizens and not the big health insurance and drug companies. Vote it down!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Rosenthal [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose-Graham-Cassidy-Heller

An overwhelming majority of health care professionals and organizations agree that over time this bill will take health care away from 32 million Americans. It will also take employment away from health care workers and bankrupt many hospitals. It will kill people.

Please oppose it.

Thank you,
Pam Rosenthal
San Francisco, CA

P&M Editorial Services
Clean, Careful Copyediting
PMEditorial.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Will Grimes <[REDACTED]@janoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: END THE ACA

The ACA places unacceptable limits on our freedom for the illusion of healthcare security for all. This law was based on a series of lies. If Congress does not end this travesty, every member of Congress should be required to enroll in an ACA compliant health insurance plan available in their home state. The DC Plan should end!

We have been programmed, over many decades, that health insurance is required to supply all of our healthcare needs. Many conflate healthcare with insurance. Why should it ever be acceptable to purchase a health insurance policy only after becoming ill? Anyone with a "pre-existing condition" needs healthcare, not insurance. Why do we need health insurance companies, with stockholders, that profit from illness? The true issue is how to best fund our personal healthcare.

I have heard from some that healthcare is a human right! Then I should be able to demand services from any healthcare provider with no regard to their compensation. Considering healthcare as a "right" would require the servitude of others. To maintain and promote a world class healthcare system, healthcare professionals must profit from their many years of training and the cost of running a practice. Our healthcare system will falter without many new highly educated doctors, surgeons, nurses, and support staff.

The single payer is the most insane idea. Government controlled single payer, like Medicare and the Veterans Administration (VA), destroys the free market and limits our freedom to choose. Winners and losers are not selected by service quality and price but by lobbyist influence on government or the ideology of an administration. Bureaucracies are typically not motivated to reduce cost or improve services with politically based management. Recent news regarding the VA and implosion of the ACA should make this abundantly clear. Government control of healthcare will insure national bankruptcy and the equality of misery.

Yes, we do need health insurance for possible future catastrophic health events. We do not need insurance for every health event. Removing the insurance middle-man and paying service providers directly will reduce a lot of the paper work, cost, and third party control of a simple office visit, screening, or a minor health event. Also, the cost of many pre-existing conditions can be covered without insurance. For the major health events, allow the purchase of catastrophic insurance without the requirement to apply through a government website. Also, open up the insurance market so that any group can form a cost share cooperative.

To fund much of our healthcare needs, all Citizens should be able to own a personal tax free Health Savings Account (HSA) with greatly reduced regulations. Funds deposited by the owner, by an employer, or by anybody should be totally tax free. There should be no requirement to obtain a federally approved health insurance policy in order to own a HSA. Funds deposited into and HSA must be used for valid healthcare services, prescriptions, medical equipment, and catastrophic insurance premiums with no contribution limits. HSAs will require citizens to take responsibility for what is spent on their healthcare and will promote competition.

To aid healthcare consumers, health providers need to publish pricing and outcomes of the healthcare they provide though on-line customer evaluations. Also, all medical records should be easily accessible by the patient for electronic transfer to a competing healthcare provider.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jen lukehart [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Jen Lukehart
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

I am married to an Irish citizen, and I want nothing more than to move back home with him. The reason that we do not move back home is that we cannot afford sickness, injury, or disease.

What does it say about the state of our nation, Senators, that as a low-wage worker I cannot return to the country I call home without fear of financial ruin if myself or my foreign spouse falls ill? These are likely not concerns which ever cross your mind, as members of America's upper class. But, perhaps these concerns ought to occupy more of your mental space and time. Because they occupy that space for a large portion of the people you represent. Isn't it time that our concerns became yours? Isn't that why we elected you in the first place? To make things better for everyone, instead of only for a privileged few?

Please, I urge you, when the time comes, think of the citizens of the United States, those you represent and those you don't. Vote 'no' on Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you for your time and your service to your constituents and our nation.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Glenn

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tiffany Glenn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators:

My name is Tiffany Glenn. I am a US citizen from Colorado, currently living abroad in China. I am writing to you to urge you not to move forward with the Graham-Cassidy bill which would put millions of Americans, myself included, into a risky and unknown future regarding healthcare and personal finances.

I am an honorably-discharged veteran of the USAF. I served in a non-combat capacity during 9/11, and was discharged in June 2003. Since then, I have been a low-wage worker, for a third of that time I spent going to school, both at a local community college and later through a low-residency program to earn my BA. I have worked full-time since I was 17, and attended college part-time for 3 years, and full-time for 2. I have worked hard for 16 and 1/2 years and still, occasionally find myself struggling to make ends meet.

I am sure that I am not alone in my circumstance. Wages have been stagnant relative to inflation for decades, and have fallen among the lower and middle-class workers since 1999. Although, as this article from the World Economic Forum states, this spreading financial insecurity has no effect on the most affluent in our society, and in fact the upper class has seen an increase in wealth while the wealth of the lower and middle-classes has shrunk. (<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/05/america-is-getting-richer-workers-are-not-why>)

Americans pay more out-of-pocket for healthcare than any citizens of any other nation in the world. According to Susan Brink in her April 20, 2017 NPR article:

"When people are paying out of pocket, the poorest people will forgo treatment — or they'll have treatment and be thrown into poverty because of medical costs. That's mostly a problem for poor countries, though the U.S. stands out among high-income countries as having catastrophic medical expenditures that put people into poverty."

(<http://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2017/04/20/524774195/what-country-spends-the-most-and-least-on-health-care-per-person>)

If the partisan group in favor of Graham-Cassidy pushes the bill forward, regardless of the input healthcare and health insurance professionals who roundly reject the bill, the effects which they will be immune to, with their government medical benefits and exorbitantly high salaries, will be felt by many Americans, especially by those who rely on Medicare/Medicaid, who have pre-existing medical conditions, and women.

How can an economy function without workers well enough to work. Health care shouldn't be considered as a privilege, but a right of every citizen of the United States.

Part of the reason I am living and working abroad is the cost of healthcare and insurance in the US. In the past 3 years since graduating college, I have lived in China, Thailand, and Ireland. In China and in Thailand, I had to use emergency care services and paid a small fraction of the cost for those comparable services than I would have in the US, without using my traveler's insurance. In Ireland, a visit to any doctor is €50, which includes a referral to specialists if needed. Though I have continued to earn relatively low wages in these countries, I have enjoyed at least one less financial stress in that I have had access to affordable healthcare by qualified and competent professionals.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Matessa [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please stop and think

Republican senators, please stop and think about what you are doing. You are playing a political game with people's lives in the balance, all to give wealthy people even more money. Listen to your constituents who don't want this bill. Listen to the experts who all agree that this bill will be terrible for our country. Be brave, take a stand, and do not vote for this bill.

Michael Matessa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eric Blair <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Eric Blair
Arlington, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Kogan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:33 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
....

Senators,

Our Pennsylvania family has two children with autism. The drastic proposed cuts to Medicaid in Pennsylvania will prevent our children from being guaranteed needed supports and services. These services include community and home based wrap around services.

Please work together in a true bipartisan format when tackling health care needs.

Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill. We need to protect Medicaid funding.

Thank you,

Lisa and Ben Kogan

Lisa Kogan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: madelyn weiss [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a general pediatrician practicing at Kaiser Permanente in Northern California. The current version of your bill is projected to decrease medicaid spending in my state by 23% between 2020-2026. In your desperate attempt to get this bill passed, I heard this evening that you are planning to shift more money to Arizona, Alaska and Maine. I assume that that will mean even less healthcare money for the people of California if this bill passes. Even though I work in a middle class area, I have many patients who are on medicaid, and who also get insurance through the ACA exchanges. Perhaps you don't know what medicaid can mean to a family with a devastatingly ill or disabled child. One family in my practice comes to mind. Before their daughter was born, both parents worked at middle class, white collar jobs. Then they had a child who was born with a severe disability. At age 5, this child has both the physical and cognitive abilities of a 4 month old. She can't eat properly and needs to be tube fed through a G-tube inserted directly into her stomach. Whenever she has a cold, her parents stay up all night because they worry that she will aspirate and get a pneumonia. They had another child after this one was born who was diagnosed with autism. Mom had to give up her job to be a full time care taker to two special needs kids. Luckily, despite having to give up her income, the family qualified for medicaid and all of them have access to healthcare, including the very complex healthcare her two children required. This family has a lot of worries, but access to healthcare isn't one of them. Don't take medicaid away from them, or, should CA choose to keep the same number of people covered, have this family lose access to healthcare as provider reimbursement gets lowered to the point where few physician groups will take medicaid patients.

This year, the Senate voted for a 2018 defense budget that was \$97 billion higher than asked for by the Trump Administration. If that amount of funding continues then over the next 8 years, we will be adding about \$800 billion for defense. The amount of money that would be taken out of medicaid by this bill would be \$168 billion from 2020-2026. That is less than 25% of the increase in the military budget.

The richest country in the world shouldn't be taking healthcare from its most vulnerable.

Sincerely,

Madelyn Weiss, MD
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Bushroe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy Hearing

Dear Senators,

I (like all Americans) need quality, affordable healthcare, which is why I have been grateful for the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act. Thanks to the PPACA, I was able to stay on my parents' insurance while I was a full-time college student, and a part-time worker. Thanks to the PPACA, I've been able to keep up routine, preventative care (a checkup with my primary care physician, getting a flu shot, etc.). Thanks to the PPACA, I was able to schedule several appointments with a specialist to address a history of illness, underwent multiple tests, received a diagnosis, and finally got on two prescription medications which have greatly improved my quality of life. I never would've been able to afford all of this on my own, had it not been for my new insurance. There are millions more like me who have stories of how the PPACA has been a godsend.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller repeal bill wipes away protections for those with pre-existing conditions, hurts those with disabilities and low-income seniors, would drop an estimated 32 million people from health insurance, and other negative effects. Because of this, I oppose the bill. I want to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bushroe

Tucson, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Wang [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

I write to voice my emphatic opposition to the bill proposed by Sens. Graham and Cassidy, and urge you to do the same. You should all be familiar with the exhaustive list of authorities in the areas of medicine and policy that oppose this bill for the danger it poses to the state of health and healthcare (not to mention the economy) in this country. This bill stands to harm me and my family personally, would be devastating to a number of my friends with medically complex children, and of course, would harm countless Americans by jeopardizing their access to healthcare, raising premiums and destabilizing insurance markets.

I am a mother to two beautiful boys, one of whom was delivered via Cesarean section and who also suffers from food allergies. These are pre-existing conditions for which medical care could have very high -- prohibitively expensive -- out-of-pocket costs, should we be denied coverage on those bases. You should be familiar with the outrageous fees charged for Epi-pens in the recent past. Even if coverage was not denied outright, we could be discriminated against on these bases and charged unfair (again, perhaps prohibitively expensive) premiums. **PLEASE oppose this bill that will allow insurers to discriminate against those with pre-existing conditions.** (And please understand that we are not fooled by lies and attempts to confuse the issue.)

In my life, my friends and family have relied on Medicaid -- a cousin battling addiction, a sister who became pregnant while she and her husband worked jobs that did not provide insurance, young nieces living in poverty through no fault of their own. These are not circumstances in which Americans should be prevented from seeing doctors/getting treatments that they need. **G-C's gutting of Medicaid is immoral, and destructive to society.**

I have a number of friends who are parents of "medically complex" children. These children have **overwhelming** medical needs, through no fault of their own, or of their parents. Children who lived much of their first year of life in a NICU -- exhausting any pre-ACA "lifetime maximum" before they even made it home to live with their families. Children with **dozens** of medical disorders/conditions/diagnoses across multiple organs/systems -- pre-existing conditions that will follow them their entire lives. My 3 year old friend was born with a heart condition requiring immediate open heart surgery, requires regular treatment for diminished kidney function, breathes through a trach with assistance from a ventilator, just to start. These families, even those with very good insurance that covers most of the medical care they need (b/c of the ACA!) rely on Medicaid waivers to access the various physical, occupational, speech, etc. therapies that their children need to be able to attend school, participate in society...sometimes even live at home with their families. Graham-Cassidy threatens these children and their families (including healthy siblings for whom opportunities in life may be foreclosed by the financial calamity this bill will unleash upon them) with physical, emotional and financial ruin.

These are just the negative impacts of the bill with which I'm personally familiar. God knows it is also terrible for this country's seniors, people with chronic and/or very severe illness, the disability community, and regular Americans who have been able to obtain quality health insurance under the ACA.

Finally, please oppose this bill because the way in which the entire repeal process has been undertaken is very dangerous and damaging to our democracy. Trying to sneak a wildly unpopular bill through a rushed,

uninformed (*see* lack of CBO impact analysis) and manipulated process, selling out constituents along the way in order to buy votes from "wavering" states, all while lying and literally hiding from constituents is not only shameful, but also sets a dangerous precedent. Please heed Sen. McCain's warning about the importance of Senate and democratic processes/norms, and his call for regular order. While its clear certain Congressmen and women are so craven as to prioritize their political survival over American lives, I believe that there are enough among you who can recognize the true costs and dangers implicated here. **PLEASE BE BRAVE. Please stand up for what is right -- for Americans who depend on ACA protections/Medicaid now, for all of us who could, at any time in the future, need such protections (aka you and your family), and for this country.**

Thank you.

Best,
Jessica Wang

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claudia Wilkinson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy should be ditched

I don't know anyone who believes it's a good idea to refuse medical treatment to US residents without health insurance. Do you?

Unless Senate Republicans are willing to advertise to their constituents that it's OK with them for the uninsured to die on the sidewalk outside the ER (whether they are poor immigrants, or wealthy, white 20-somethings) an individual mandate is essential to a functioning health care system. I truly believe that you all actually understand: That's how insurance works.

There are lots of options, whether we migrate to a single payer system, or some blend of public/private arrangement, which I'm sure you're familiar with, having informed yourselves of what is working quite well in numerous other countries. It is absurd that we don't come close to universal coverage, given that we spend *more* than these countries do.

Claudia Wilkinson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott Hanson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. 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 do not understand the rush to a bill that affects ALL Americans and one sixth of our economy other than political posturing. This should ALWAYS be a bipartisan bill and should be thoroughly researched and debated until the VERY best bill can be presented. Healthcare should not be handled like a high school research paper do on Monday and started Sunday night. If even ONE American life is lost because a bill is shoved through just to get a win, a crime will have been committed. Reject this bill.

Scott Hanson
Western Springs, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Oscar Owens [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: statement on Graham Cassidy bill

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
Oscar Owens

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I implore all Senators and members of the Senate Finance Committee to reject the Graham-Cassidy Bill as a woefully inadequate approach to meet the health care needs of the United States. This bill, if passed, would have incredible harmful effects and take a toll on this country in lives and dollars. Many major medical and health organizations have publicly opposed this bill. Do the morally right thing and pursue other avenues to fix our healthcare system in a well researched and bipartisan process, this bill is not acceptable.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Lifton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill, which will strip health care from, by some estimates, 32 million Americans. (And the fact that the Senate is trying to ram this through without CBO analysis is especially troubling.)

I am one of the millions of Americans who must pay for health insurance out of pocket, with no ACA subsidies. I'm self-employed and have no employer (save myself) to provide health coverage. I currently pay an astronomical premium (nearly \$800 a month) for worse than mediocre coverage and simply pray that I remain healthy.

Yet even in that context, the provisions of the Graham-Cassidy bill are beyond egregious.

I have, in the past, run afoul of insurance companies' preexisting condition bans, for no reason other than misinterpretation by low-level personnel of something in my medical history. Now that I am considerably older, I'm terrified that allowing companies to once again refuse to cover preexisting conditions, as the bill does, will leave millions of Americans like me with no access to healthcare.

Furthermore, the bill's plan for block grants to states will penalize the more forward-thinking states like California, which worked to expand access to healthcare, in favor of those where pig-headed and ignorant state governments refused to expand Medicaid or to set up exchanges.

I am appalled that there are special provisions in the bill to favor states where senators are on the fence about supporting it, while citizens in the rest of the states will be left out in the cold.

The bill is reprehensible in every single way, not least of which because it is a thinly disguised giveaway to the wealthiest donors in America, at the expense of the health of middle-class, working-class and poor Americans.

Members of the Senate need to remember that they serve their constituents, not wealthy donors like the Koch brothers, Sheldon Adelson and the Mercers, who are pushing for the bill in order to gain a tax cut. And there will be a reckoning at the polls if they forget that and vote in support of Graham-Cassidy.

Sarah Lifton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fathyeh Marvasti [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose to the Graham-Cassidy bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Fathyeh Marvasti, MD

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elexa Kendall [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Elexa Kendall
Mansfield, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Gruber [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. This is a disgrace to the country and you should actually represent the wellbeing of people rather than just worry about whether or not the Koch brothers like you.

Senator Heller-I will donate significant money to your opponent in 2018 as a result of your votes.

Lauren Gruber
San Francisco, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Denzler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear members of Congress,

I find it appalling that you would criticize an 18 month long process to pass the ACA as too quick, but are so eager to pass something you can claim as repeal and replace that you would through all of your principles of good governance aside. Not one of you supposed "conservatives" can honestly say this bill is the best thing for your constituents. You are only following what your masters, the Koch brothers, have told you to do. You have become un-principled slaves to their money. Throwing your "Christian" values away for a few shekels. Shame on anyone who votes affirmative on this bill.

Michael Denzler

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fran Ludwig [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote Against Graham-Cassidy Proposal
Attachments: image001.gif

I strongly object to the provisions of the Graham-Cassidy proposal for healthcare. Sending block grants to the states would not guarantee affordable healthcare for those with pre-existing conditions, like my husband, who was recently diagnosed with multiple myeloma. It would not guarantee maternity benefits. Who will take care of women in childbirth? Won't that boost the abortion rate? What about children's health if Medicaid benefits are cut? Are we a third world country?

States can't afford to take over the cost of health care. There is nothing in this proposal to reduce healthcare costs--it just kicks the can down the road to states. What with suppression of voters in some states, we know who will have benefits and who will not. What about "liberty and justice for all?"

Please think about your own family. Surely you have members in your extended family who would be left without healthcare with the Graham-Cassidy proposal. What will you say to them and the thousands of constituents who will be relegated to poor health, just to "repeal Obamacare."

What kind of a country do we want anyhow? Don't we care about each other?

Thank you

Frances Ludwig
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please take more care in US health care modification
Attachments: NAMD-Statement-on-Graham-Cassidy9_21_17.pdf; graham-cassidy-letter-final-september-2017-aarp.pdf; Joint-statement-AMA-AAFP-AHA-FAH-AHIP-BCBSA-9.23.17.pdf

Greetings,

Please take more care in creating a great health care system in the US than the Graham Cassidy plan does. It is being pushed through too fast for it to have been evaluated, and will result in chaos in the marketplace and individual's health care. The latest changes to gain votes from Republican holdouts make the bill even worse for the nation.

I recognize that the Republicans said they wanted to repeal the ACA for 7 years. They did not add "replace" until about a year ago, which is why there is no good plan to do so.

The original ACA was worked on for at least 18 months, with input from health care providers, hospitals, and other stakeholders.

This bill has been drafted in secret by a small group of Republicans, with no input from anyone but their financial donors, as best I can tell.

Opposition from the National Association of Medicaid Directors has been publicly released, as has opposition from the major physician associations; the AARP opposes the bill; and a laundry list of medical associations opposing the bill can be found here: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/09/22/heres-a-list-of-medical-groups-opposing-the-cassidy-graham-health-care-bill/?utm_term=.5188eaa805b5.

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy health care bill, in any form they choose to twist it into in order to gain the vote of those few Republicans who are opposed to it. It will cause chaos in the health care industry, and result in many people being unable to obtain health care, as evidenced by the opposition of the major health care provider organizations.

Please work to fix the health care system to allow everyone to have necessary health care, at an affordable price for each individual or family, by consulting with experts in the various parts of the system, as well as people affected by the system. I expect this process to take quite a bit of time, at least six months, if concentrated, or up to 18 months or 2 years if less concentrated attention is given to it.

Sincerely,

Diane Lewis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lucy Semonoff-Flam [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:50 AM
To: gchcomments

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to thank you for holding a hearing, and to respectfully request that you strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is my hope that this is last effort to "repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act, and that Congress can move on to other business, finally. It is time consuming for us all to discuss over and over again whether it is ok to take away health insurance from millions of Americans and generally make access to care more difficult and less affordable.

If passed, Graham-Cassidy would cause more than 30 million people to lose health insurance. It would also cap funding for Medicaid, meaning that states could start implementing waiting lists or cuts to coverage, putting our most vulnerable and disabled residents at risk and not providing states with the ability to provide coverage for all who qualify, including severely disabled babies and children. This dangerous bill would also allow states to eliminate pre-existing condition coverage, meaning that people with devastating diagnoses would be unable to leave their work if their job is how they have their insurance (imagine being required to work through cancer treatment, even a terminal cancer diagnosis, because if you leave your job you cannot get insurance to cover your treatment). There are other dangerous provisions in this legislation, which will be devastating to your constituents and so many Americans. Please do everything you are able to stop this bill in its tracks, and if it makes it to the floor, please vote no.

Sincerely,
Lucy Flam

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shannon O'Dear [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Shannon O'Dear
Houston, TX

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham- cassidy

No to this abomination. No to the senators that hold party above people.
Amend Obamacare. I know this is asking you to do your job like an adult, but...work together to fix Obamacare
and Amend the parts that need fixed.

Kathy Smith

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trisha McGrenera [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy comments

Hello,

I am requesting my comments be entered into the record for the hearing on Graham-Cassidy. They are as follows:

Graham-Cassidy would, among other things:

- Eliminate the Affordable Care Act (ACA)'s subsidies for private insurance, throwing the insurance markets into a "death spiral"
- Stop covering certain essential health benefits, including maternity care or prescription drugs, which will result in a spike in premium costs for these *essential* benefits.
- Take the current Medicaid expansion spending from the 30 states that participate in the program and divide it among all 50 states, thereby punishing states that elected to expand Medicare and rewarding states that did not. This behavior should not be encouraged, because the Medicare expansion provided a fund for providing health care at no cost to the states.
- Remove the ACA's prohibition of underwriting, thereby allowing insurance companies to charge more to individual patients based on their expected healthcare costs. This undoes the underlying principle that makes insurance effective (i.e., pool the population so that the sicker can be covered)
- Provide inadequate time (two years) for states to create an infrastructure to administer health insurance. As an example, it took Massachusetts, a state with healthy tax revenues, four years to build its insurance administration program. It is unrealistic to expect states with lower tax revenues to build an infrastructure in half the time it took Massachusetts.

In summary, Graham-Cassidy would be incredibly disruptive to the insurance markets and would result in an overall premium increases to all but the youngest and healthiest constituents by undoing the foundation that makes insurance effective. It will result in increased health insurance costs for many Americans and market instability. A better solution would be a bi-partisan effort to stabilize the insurance exchanges under the ACA.

Sincerely,
Trisha McGrenera

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Laskey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for the Record on Graham-Cassidy Bill

For the record:

Comments submitted to:
Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal September 25, 2017

From:
Kathryn Blackmond Laskey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am writing to express strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. This proposal is a poorly thought out, rushed effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act prior to the October 1 deadline for the reconciliation process. The bill would have devastating effects on millions of American citizens. It would eliminate the market subsidies, which enable the healthcare marketplace to function and help individuals to afford coverage. If this bill is passed, the healthcare marketplace would likely cease functioning. It would make deep and permanent cuts to Medicaid, denying essential healthcare to millions of vulnerable low-income people. It would allow states to waive provisions to people with preexisting conditions. It would jeopardize essential care for people struggling with substance abuse disorders.

The Affordable Care Act is far from perfect. However, the way to address its problems is not through this kind of hasty, opaque, partisan approach. We need a truly bipartisan, open, publicly accessible process of airing and debating the issues and working toward a resolution that works for all Americans.

Thank you for your consideration.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: steve@luminousdesign.com
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy.

This bill is so wrong, in so many ways. If you care about the welfare of American citizens, do not implement this plan.

Steve Lawnick
Columbia MO



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gaye McGill <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Gaye McGill

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheri Snyder <dreamcatcherco@sbcglobal.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.

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

Sheri Snyder

[REDACTED] net
[REDACTED] e.
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary StClair <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

Mary StClair

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: nancy Lynn [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy

I'm an elderly blind Missourian who relies on both medicare and medicaid for my health care. I'm on a fixed income and would not be able to bare the cost of my health care without these services. Along with being blind, I'm also diabetic and have survived cancer twice. I very much enjoy living and would like to stay alive as long as possible. Medicare and medicaid have been helpful in this effort. Thanks for your attention, and please keep my health care coming as needed.

Nancy Lynn [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathie Lucas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

Do not pass this cruel bill. The most vulnerable among us need Medicaid expansion and access to care. Do the right thing for your constituents and make care more affordable and easy to use for all of us. Pre-existing conditions and women's primary care must be a right for all, no matter their income level. Make a political stand on a political issue, not health care.

Kathryn Lucas
[REDACTED].
[REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Priscilla Block [redacted] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on Graham Cassidy Helath Care (not)

I do not support his proposal!

--

Priscilla Block

Executive Director

St. Louis ArtWorks

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

2016 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awardee

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy Cohen <betsy.cohen@stlouis-mo.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Thus is a terrible bill -vote no

Betsy Cohen
St. Louis MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nina Needleman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham Cassidy bill!

Hi
I'm a voter in Ballwin MO, a suburb of St. Louis

Healthcare is a complicated issue, but don't make it worse!
States don't need more to do and many don't have the ability to comprehensively administrate a health plan.

Ultimately - this plan will end up taking healthcare from those who need it most. This will end up being a greater burden for the middle and upper classes. The poor will go back to expensive emergency room services, costing the system and society much much more.

Improving the ACA must be done thoughtfully and not rushed for political "points".

Thanks for listening.

Regards,

Nina

Nina Needleman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DIXON DUDDERAR [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please fix the Affordable Care Act / DO NO HARM to the good law we have now.

Please:

Please ... Don't mess with what's NOT broken.

We are on the ACA exchange in Northern Michigan. A rural area. We have 4-5 (plenty) of providers to choose from. Each with Defined, Complete and SPECIFIC costs, deductibles, and SPECIFIC benefits. Same for every plan. No fine print.

Every GOP "replacement" proposal so far — including the Graham-Cassidy now in the Senate and the one Trump called "mean" that the House passed — are horrible alternatives to the ACA. And the MAJORITY of Americans know it. The same MAJORITY that wants Congress to Get. To. Work. and FIX the wonderful, consumer protection health care law — no discrimination based on sex, age or pre-existing conditions for ANYONE — we have now in the ACA.

Sincerely,
Dixon Dudderar

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris & Peter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCHJ Bill

Anyone with a shred of human kindness should oppose this bill.

My daughter was born with muscular dystrophy and a mild cognitive impairment. She depends on a continuity of funding to be able to live on her on and also just to live! She needs help to regulate her breathing, medications, and people to assist her. He father and I help out all we can but it is not enough.

She is one of millions and millions of citizens in this country who are not in perfect health and do not have the kind of health insurance guarantees that Congress does.

VOTE DOWN THIS BILL!

Chris Hench
Livonia MI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Glenora Helfrich <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:56 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. Glenora Helfrich
[REDACTED] 4
[REDACTED] 201
[REDACTED] 2000

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dottie Mathews <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: IMPROVE ACA - DO NOT REPEAL

Hello,

I am a citizen like many others in the US. I have family members that are vulnerable with pre-existing conditions and other issues that the ACA has given them the opportunity to have quality care and coverage.

I am writing you to URGE you to stop all this nonsense about trying to repeal this act and, instead, improve and expand it.

There is no way this country can be GREAT if our people do not have the assurance of quality health care. Stop playing with our lives!

Thank you.

Dottie Mathews
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Caravelli [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please NO NOT repeal Obamacare!

For breast cancer survivors, the loss of Obamacare, with its protections for people with preexisting conditions, would be disastrous! Each woman could have to pay \$900 by being put in a high-risk pool!

For Medicaid recipients, the loss of Obamacare would be disastrous!

For Medicare recipients, the loss of Obamacare would be disastrous, because of the change in funding for Medicare.

Please DO NOT repeal Obamacare!!!

Linda Caravelli
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: rick Menendez <rickmenendez@charter.net>
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.

rick Menendez

rickmenendez@charter.net

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Kerby Miller

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 3

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amber Tobiasz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

Action: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

Email: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov by 1pm EST/10am PST Monday 9/25.

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 live with Parkinson's. While I do not currently rely on ACA, I do not want to be closed out of healthcare due to my condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Anne M. Tobiasz
St. Louis, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheila & Bill Campbell [REDACTED] <>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

Sheila & Bill Campbell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kevin wainman [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.

kevin wainman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Prakash [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

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

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a small business owner, we rely on being able to purchase affordable healthcare for our young family. We have children with pre-existing conditions that would be impacted by this proposed bill. It is abhorrent that this type of legislation is being proposed. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Kathleen Prakash
Kirkwood, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally Denton [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

We are residents of Missouri that are strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy proposal. Our daughter who has epilepsy has been able to get and maintain good healthcare and appropriate treatment under Obamacare and thus has become a productive member of society. She has been able to hold down a steady job as a Robotics teacher in an after school program. Because of her epilepsy, it took her 10 years to graduate college and she had not had good healthcare and was unable to maintain work, due to her seizures. After getting on her current plan, she went to work and feels healthy and productive, though she is required to be on medication for the rest of her life and have frequent monitoring. She now works steadily and pays taxes as a productive member of her community.

Please consider our family and all the families with pre-existing conditions that deserve help and want to be productive.

Sincerely,

Sally and David Denton
St Louis, Mo [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Odette Rydel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Impact of the Proposed Graham- Cassidy Bill

Dear Sir/Madam:

I'm writing out of grave concern for the impact that the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill would have on my family and many families like ours. I have an adult daughter with a significant disability. She has Down syndrome and other disabilities. She has a beautiful smile and a love for people and for helping others. However, she has significant challenges in her communication and motor abilities and requires help with most every day activities, including self-care. I am her primary caregiver and devote many hours every day to helping her. She currently benefits from a Medicaid waiver. The medicaid waiver has deeply improved her quality of life and my quality of life, and has enabled her to have an active role in the community. With the funds of her Medicaid waiver, my daughter, Laurel, can access support people who come and help her with every day activities and also go with her out in the community. With the help of her support people, Laurel now volunteers at the local YMCA, where she has made many new friends. Laurel has impacted the life of many people, who look forward to seeing her at the Y, smiling as she welcomes them into the workout room. Laurel enjoys the opportunity to interact with people of all ages and help them. She feels productive and fulfilled. Her emotional health and physical health have both improved since she has had the opportunity to get out on her own, like most adults, and volunteer and exercise. She leads a better quality of life and a more cost effective life, as the cost of not being able to have access to her community in this way would increase the feeling of helplessness and depression and would likely lead to a higher probability of needing institutional care, as opposed to care at home, supplemented by the help of the support people. This, in turn, has freed some of my time off, so I can now exercise a little bit and take better care of myself, and be a better caregiver for Laurel and for my elderly mother. I know there are many people like Laurel out there, for whom these services are vital to leading productive and healthy lives and keeping them at home with their families.

Access to healthcare in all of its forms is vital to all of us. Sharing my personal story is not easy for me, but I understand how critically important it is at this point in time for the members of your committee to hear from people like me. Laurel and I are the people whose lives depend on this healthcare decision. Please, do not cut Medicaid funding for people with disabilities. We are families and individuals that just will not make it without the dramatic help that Medicaid services bring into their lives. If I can provide you with any more information on this topic, the best way to reach me is via email at odetterydell@sbcglobal.net. Please, consider very carefully your decision and please, do not cut Medicaid funding for people with disabilities. Thanks for your consideration and hopefully, your support.

Sincerely,
Odette Rydel
St. Charles, Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheri Liz Gabbert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I am as opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill as I have ever been opposed to anything in my life. This bill, if passed, would result in my death and the deaths of millions of Americans. That sounds incredibly melodramatic, but it is the truth. It's the reality of this proposed legislation. No disrespect intended, but Congress has done nothing to curtail drug costs. It would be impossible for me to afford the medication I need to survive without Medicaid. I could not afford my doctor's visits, either.

Now, I am no freeloader. I am disabled but I work part-time. I do all I can to help myself but when you're disabled, you're disabled. My doctor is firm that I cannot work full time so this isn't just me being lazy. I'm not lazy. I'm ill.

I will always have a preexisting condition. I need the protection of my government from insurance companies, not to be thrown out into a world of medical needs without insurance or without insurance I can afford.

There are millions of Americans, hardworking Americans, who live at or below the poverty level. Many, many are children. Many are elderly. Many are disabled like I am. All of these people will be in danger if the bill passes. So many will actually die because they will not be able to afford their medical treatments.

Furthermore, this bill is an affront to women. I have a granddaughter who is a young adult. The idea that so many aspects of women's health would be considered preexisting conditions is beyond outrageous!

Essentially, the Graham-Cassidy Bill is an unconscionable piece of legislation that will cause tremendous and irrevocable harm to millions of Americans. As senators, it is your responsibility to PROTECT Americans, ALL Americans! The poor and the middle class will pay dearly if this bill is passed. Do the right thing.

Thank you for your time and attention to my vehement opposition to this bill.

Sheri Gabbert
Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy Moticka [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My personal health story for your consideration, please

Dear Senators Hatch, Grassley, Crapo, Roberts, Enzi, Cornyn, Thune, Burr, Isakson, Portman, Toomey, Heller, Scott, Cassidy, Wyden, Stabenow, Cantwell, Nelson, Menendez, Carper, Cardin, Brown, Bennett, Casey, Warner, and McCaskill,

My name is Judy Moticka and my husband and I live in Kirkwood, MO. We have been fortunate to have health insurance through our employer, but as my husband is a partner in his law firm, he has always been aware of how much we have paid for it. We had been even more fortunate with excellent health until 5 years ago this month, when what we thought was appendicitis was actually an incredibly rare form of abdominal cancer, appendiceal cancer. Since September 2012, my husband has undergone two rounds of chemotherapy, had 7 major surgeries (one lasting 20 hours, another 15 hours). While he currently has no evidence of disease, it will likely come back at some time the future.

A year ago, he had to go on long-term disability from work, and we were able to keep our health insurance, but now pay \$1300/month for it. It is well worth it, but it's a hardship, too. Next year, our COBRA rights will run out and we will need to find comparable insurance. Over the last 5 years, our medical bills, had we not had excellent insurance would have exceeded 2 million dollars. Without the ACA protections (no lifetime cap, guarantee to not be dropped), we would be bankrupt or I'd be a widow. Or both.

I am 57, my husband will soon turn 61. I worked my whole life as a school teacher and my husband was an attorney. Together we raised 5 children and now are thrilled to have 5 grandchildren. We have always paid our share or more. And we want to have many more years together.

If the Graham-Cassidy bill passes and the money gets turned over to the states, I have no faith that our state will protect our lives. Affordable health care and insurance should not be for the very wealthy. It should be a right. I agree that the ACA is not perfect, but it's an excellent start.

No one thinks they will get sick, but everyone will, some more seriously than others. If you don't have a pre-existing condition, you're just one medical test, one doctor visit away from having one.

We, as a nation, are better than this. We must be.

Sincerely,
Judy Moticka

[redacted]
[redacted]

September 20, 2017

Dana Mallory
5704 S Winsor Dr.
Brookline, MO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 6

Senator Claire McCaskill
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Senator McCaskill,

I'm a constituent from from Springfield and I have stage 3 breast cancer. I am the sole support for my 2 children and elderly parents.

I will die without insurance. My bills were over \$400,000 last year! If there are limits placed on pre-existing conditions I will die. If there are lifetime limits placed I will die. Without insurance I will die. My family will be on public assistance without me.

I'm expressing my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal plan. Any plan that eliminates Medicaid expansion, defunds Planned Parenthood 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.

I desperately want to live!

Sincerely,

Dana Mallory

9/18/2017

Barbara Rutledge
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
b [REDACTED]

Senator Claire McCaskill
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-6154

Dear Senator McCaskill:

Please do not allow any of the current Senate health votes to rush through legislation without careful analysis and consideration of all citizens.

As a mother of a child with pre-existing conditions, I do not want to go back to paying more for my child's health insurance - or even losing insurance all together based on the whims of state level politicians.

As a woman, I do not want to go back to paying more for my health insurance based solely on my gender. As a healthy person who may someday get sick, I do not want to go back to lifetime limits on health care.

Please do not cut the taxes of the wealthy and dump the bill in the laps of our most vulnerable. Please do not give tax breaks to insurance companies or pharmaceutical companies.

We deserve the same health care you have. We deserve your health care - the health care the rest of us pay for in addition to our own premiums, copays, and out of pocket expenses. Americans deserve better. Do not make us go back to the old insurance laws that harm millions of us.


Sincerely,

Barbara Rutledge



Do not rush Healthcare

Grouped With:

 [Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal plan](#)

Correspondence

Subject:

Do not rush Healthcare

Type:

incoming

Topic:

Health/Healthcare

Upload Letter:

Yes

Method:

Letter

Recipient Constituent/Contact:

Contact Information	
Constituent Type:	individual
VIP:	No
Full name:	<u>Rutledge, Barbara</u>
Salutation:	Dear Ms. Rutledge
Prefix:	Ms.
First Name:	Barbara
Last Name:	Rutledge
Default E-mail:	<u>barbarajrutledge@gmail.com</u>
Phone Number:	(314) 604-3686
Do Not Mail:	No
Unsubscribed from Newsletter:	No
Subscribe Date:	May 4th 2017 (EDT)
Address	
ID#:	2161650
Class:	Home
Type:	domestic
Street:	230 S Gore Ave
Zip:	63119-3602
City:	Saint Louis
County:	Saint Louis
State:	Missouri
Congressional District:	MO02

Validation:	valid
Override Address Validation:	No

Status:

Reply Needed

Current Staff Member:

Kenyon, Emma

Previous Staff Member:

Kenyon, Emma

Received:

September 19th 2017 01:13 pm (EDT)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shrensker, Jennifer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I am lucky to be in good health, with a husband and children in good health, with aging parents also in good health. I am lucky to get health insurance for my family through my employer. However, my story isn't what you need to hear. I'd like to tell you about someone dear to me who relies on the protections set forth by the ACA. My best friend has two daughters both born with congenital heart defects. Her youngest daughter (now 3 years old) is expected to undergo her first open-heart surgery in the coming months. Hopefully, her defect will be repaired and no further surgeries will be required, although she will always have to have follow-up visits for monitoring. However, her oldest daughter, (now 5 years old) has a condition similar to Jimmy Kimmel's son, and she underwent two major open-heart surgeries before the age of 2. The lifetime caps that her insurance company had before the Affordable Care Act were maxed out after the second surgery. And, she is expected to need at least one more surgery as she outgrows the repairs that were made while she was so small. Her condition requires annual cardiac catheterizations and regular doctors visits. From what I understand about the Graham-Cassidy bill, insurance companies from some states will be able to opt out of ACA protections and may therefore be able to place lifetime caps back on their policies. Additionally, this new bill seems to allow insurance companies to charge more for people with preexisting conditions. So even if there were no lifetime caps placed on her, the cost of a policy for someone as high-risk as she is might be more than what my friend can afford.

In a health care bill, you want to take care of the health care needs of all Americans--both the healthy (who admittedly don't need much care) and the sick, and both the wealthy (who can afford to pay for insurance) and the poor. Anyone who is healthy or wealthy will likely be able to receive the care they need, no matter what plan congress sets forth. Those are not the Americans we should be concerning ourselves with. Instead, it makes sense to really consider the healthcare needs of the sick and the poor when deciding what should be in a healthcare bill. From what I have heard all the pundits describe over the past week or so, people with pre-existing conditions, people who have a disability, and people who qualify for Medicaid will be negatively impacted the most. It seems as if this bill places the needs of the healthy and wealthy ahead of the needs of the sick or the poor. For me, that is not an acceptable alternative to the ACA.

I agree that the ACA is not perfect. No healthcare bill is going to be. I do think the ACA has kept the healthcare needs of our country's most vulnerable citizens in mind while Graham-Cassidy has not. I would like to see a BIPARTISAN effort to fix and improve the ACA, not to repeal it. Our country works best when we work together. I know the majority of Americans believe that too and would like to see more compromise in the future. I hope you take my thoughts into consideration.

Sincerely,

Jenny Shrensker
St. Louis, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edie Cole <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal

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

My story with the ACA is that it gave me coverage for the first time as an adult when I was 25. Prior to the protections Obamacare gives to those with preexisting conditions I was denied insurance everywhere I applied. I lost coverage when I turned 19, aging out of Medicaid coverage. For the next several years I struggled with debilitating depression, anxiety and PTSD that prevented me from being able to work full time or fully function in society. I couldn't get treatment because I didn't have insurance because I was refused coverage because of preexisting mental illness. It's a terrible catch 22 that plagues many people.

When I got coverage through the marketplace the door was open to so many options for help. With that treatment I was able to very successfully attend college, get a good job that meant I no longer had to depend on the subsidy from the ACA to have healthcare coverage, work towards starting a family. I was able to not only survive, but thrive and be a contributing member of society.

The idea of states being in charge of deciding how healthcare will work is a nightmare. The idea that if they don't cover preexisting conditions, they'll have to provide an affordable option for those of us with those preexisting conditions is a joke. I technically had options the state thought were reasonable when I couldn't get insurance before. One of those options was a \$400 a month state provided plan that I couldn't afford when I couldn't even work a decent job. The other was using the county hospital where, even though I tried for over five years, I couldn't get seen unless it was in the emergency room.

We need the ACA. All individuals need healthcare coverage. It's inhumane for people to suffer and die because they don't have access to simple medical help that's within our grasp to provide them. It's time for the United States to progress and catch up with the rest of the developed world. It's unacceptable for this country to move backwards towards inequality and disparities based on economic privilege.

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

With great concern and sincerity,

Edie Cole Steward
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie McDermott [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I beg you not to pass Graham Cassidy legislation. My husband and I are small business owners. We have a child with autism and a child with a chronic gastrointestinal disease. Prior to ACA, we've been denied insurance, we've been quoted premiums over \$4000K/month and we've seen rates increase significantly across all of our employees due to pre-existing conditions of our children and our employees family members. In addition, as parents of children with disabilities, our medical costs WITH our current plans are astronomical and without the pre-existing protection in place, we are risking insurance loss for our family, inability to provide medical coverage for our employees which puts our business at risk and also enormous monthly costs if we are even able to get insurance. Please, please keep the federal pre-existing disease protections in place. We work so hard just to keep up with our medical costs of our children and will possibly lose everything without this protection.

Thank you.

Julie Hall McDermott
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kaylah C. [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Kaylah Crepps and I would like to make a statement to be put on the record at Monday's SFC hearing. It us as follows:

"My name is Kaylah and I am a 24-year-old from Missouri. I am a graduate student pursuing a Master in Public Health and clinical researcher. A little over a year ago, after being sick for several months and losing 20 lbs, I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disorder called Crohn's disease. Crohn's is a condition where my immune system decides to attack my digestive system, resulting in abdominal pain, ulcers in my intestines, nausea, fatigue, and an inability to absorb nutrients from the food I eat. If untreated, I would be bedridden, unable to eat real food, until I had to have my intestines removed or I starved to death or died from a related infection.

Luckily, I have health insurance and a great team of doctors committed to my care. I take many daily medications and an injection bi-weekly, and with this regimen, I am able to hold a part time job and complete a full-time school schedule. Under the proposed bill, there is no way I would be able to afford the medication I need, nor the doctor's appointments, nor the annual colonoscopy needed to monitor my condition. Even with insurance, I spend about \$2,000 on out-of-pocket costs for my health each year, which is a lot for a student with only a part-time job, and that's only if I have no unanticipated complications.

While I cannot convince some people that they should care about me as an individual, allow me to state this: If the government continues to support the ACA or build off of it, and protects people with pre-existing conditions like me, we will be able to put money into the economy, pay taxes, and maintain our roles as productive members of society. If the ACA is repealed and replaced with a bill such as the one proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy, I will not be able to afford treatment, I will not be healthy enough to hold down a job, I will have to withdrawal from my school, I will be forced to live off of disability, and I will die a prolonged and very expensive death, leaving behind nothing but grief and debt. The ACA cannot be repealed and replaced without ensuring healthcare for all, for doing so will result in nothing but fiscal ruin and death for society's most vulnerable."

Thank you,

Kaylah Crepps

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jason Hausback [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.

Jason Hausback
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Robert Gellman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

I do not understand why you think that denying healthcare for those who cannot afford it is good for our country. You call us consumers (a name I hate) but you make it harder and harder for us to even survive. You take away a LIVING wage for many also. Do you just hope that we die and leave you alone?

Roberta Hudlow
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Colin Thornsberry [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Colin Thornsberry
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheryl Nowak [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.

Sheryl Nowak
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Kimberly Dorman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] #4

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Christy Fox
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donald Sievert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Donald Sievert
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Naomi Chanen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Naomi Chanen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Smaglik <[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.

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Robert Smaglik
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rose Vogel [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.

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Rose Vogel

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathryn Sakiyama <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Cathryn Sakiyama
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Dr.
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Norlene Hillier <nor [REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Good day,

I am a retired female that needs quality, affordable healthcare- as do most Americans.

Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I do not have employer provided insurance and I do not qualify for Medicare or Medicaid. I have a \$7000 deductible and pre-existing conditions. I just pray that I do not need that insurance but because of the Affordable Care Act, at least I have that as a safety net.

I know that the Affordable Care Act is not perfect. Please work together.

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

Sincerely, Norlene Hillier

Springfield, Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Louise Pooley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

Dear Sirs,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a cancer survivor it is important to me that pre-existing conditions continue to be covered. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Louise Pooley
Saint Louis, MO
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Asma Raza [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/ Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

As a healthcare professional, I know access to excellent and affordable healthcare is possible in our country. The ACA has wonderful provisions as coverage for adult children, elimination of pre-existing condition clauses and subsidies to ensure everyone is covered.

For the health of our nation, do not repeal healthcare!

The only thing better, which you should be working toward, is a national health plan for all. Let all citizens and legal residents have the same plan the Congress has. One plan for all will eliminate all the hassles and tricks of private insurance coverage and move healthcare from its current inefficient state to one of true excellence.

Sincerely,
Asma Raza, RPh
Saint Louis, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amber Tobiasz [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

Action: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

Email: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov by 1pm EST/10am PST Monday 9/25.

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 live with Parkinson's. While I do not currently rely on ACA, I do not want to be closed out of healthcare due to my condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Anne M. Tobiasz
St. Louis, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Keith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:33 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,
Keith V. Irvin
Saint Charles, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Keith [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a freelancer, a member of the gig economy, and can't depend on a large company to provide me with healthcare options. If rates continue to rise or companies are able to deny coverage based on pre-existing conditions, my healthcare could become so expensive that I would have to close my business. With an estimated 40% of the workforce in the gig economy by 2020, we can't create a system that makes citizens dependent on businesses for healthcare or prices us freelancers out of health insurance. Please consider the gig economy as we move forward with any new plans. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Anna Keith

St. Louis, Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Berger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I am writing to urge the committee to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill. This is not the healthcare America needs. It will deprive millions of the care they need to survive.

Thank you
Karen Berger
St. Louis, Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Iva Youkilis [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham-Cassidy

My extended 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,

Iva
Spehar
St. Louis, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Astryd Slovensky [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

To Whom It May Concern,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have chronic back pain and am in need of surgery, I rely on my family for so much help. My family relies on me for many things and I can't do that without affordable health care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Astryd Slovensky

Jefferson City, Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SARAH COYLE <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't repeal the ACA

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a physical disability and use a power wheelchair. I, along with many other Americans, need healthcare that would cover pre-existing conditions. I am praying to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please do the right thing!

Sincerely,

Sarah Coyle
St. Louis, Missouri

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Cusumano <amy.cusuma@raytownqualityschools.org>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: impact of Graham-Carter bill on students with disabilities

To Whom It May Concern,

Decreasing Medicaid financial support is detrimental to students in Raytown Schools. With the money reimbursed we are able to provide mental health and medical health supports our families cannot afford. Students are able to attend school more regularly, receive supports while at school and be a healthier individual.

Please do not negatively impact Medicaid resources.

Amy Cusumano

Amy Cusumano | Director of Special Education | Raytown Quality Schools

[Redacted contact information]

Expect the Exceptional!

Confidentiality Notice for Raytown C-2 School District: This correspondence and any attachments are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential or privileged information. Any unauthorized use, disclosure, or distribution is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you are not the intended recipient or a person responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient(s), please contact the sender and destroy all copies of the original message.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn Christian [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

Dear Senators, I would like to make a statement about the new health care bill. I am concerned about what it will do for my cost for health care as I get older. I am a career teacher in Missouri who has always paid my fair share to society and now that I am getting older I am concerned about how the rising cost of health care will become unsustainable for me. As I get older I have more health care issues, such as diabetes, that require medication and will be considered preexisting conditions under Senator Cassidy's bill. The last ten years have been hard and I have worked hard to keep myself employed and a tax paying member of society and would like to know that in the future I can continue to be independent. Further, I am confused by how Alaska should get 48% more funding than other states when the phrase "low density" means they have a smaller population. I am truly tired of people playing politics with our country's health.

Dawn Christian
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Freedom Dean [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: GCH Comments 2017 09 22.docx

Please submit this written testimony for the Senate Finance Committee's hearing on the Graham-Cassidy bill. A single-spaced document is also attached.

Regards,

Freedom Dean-Flowers

[REDACTED] Sr.

[REDACTED] MO 64055

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

September 25, 2017

Freedom Dean-Flowers

[REDACTED] Sr.

[REDACTED]

I am submitting this testimony to urge the senate to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill, as any cuts to Medicaid funding would be devastating to my family. I am a foster parent, and the children in my care have always depended on Medicaid for their healthcare. There is no system in place to allow foster parents to provide healthcare for the children that are placed in their homes except for Medicaid.

Foster children have usually suffered abuse and neglect, poverty or food insecurity, and are often victims of prenatal drug or alcohol exposure. All of these issues can lead to a higher incidence of pre-existing conditions such as birth defects, PTSD and other trauma-related mental health problems. I have seen all of these conditions in the children that I have cared for, and I have been a foster parent for less than a year. These conditions, which children developed through no fault of their own, often require ongoing management, monitoring, drug therapy, or mental-health care.

It is imperative, if we are to consider ourselves a civilized society, that we protect those that are the most vulnerable. There are more than 400,000 foster children in this country, and they need you to speak for them.

Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike and Jodi Parker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO!!!

Graham Cassidy is NOT the healthcare plan America needs. Please do not back this plan.

Joanne Parker
St. Louis, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa McLaughlin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill will harm millions

Graham Cassidy has no guaranteed protection against insurance companies denying coverage for pre-existing conditions (like my mother's Parkinson's and my husband's severe rheumatoid arthritis), no ban on lifetime benefits caps, will lead to higher premiums and less coverage, and by pushing money out to the 50 states to find their own "solutions" will lead to national chaos in our health care system. This will be a disaster. Many, many people will be harmed and will needlessly die. Complete and utter hypocrisy to say this is better than the ACA.

Lisa D. McLaughlin
St. Louis, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Green <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

After working 20 years at the same company I was let go in 2006 due to my disability. As a single father of three my only option was to file for SSDI. I filed myself and was approved but there's a three month period before you receive your first check and then an additional two years before being Medicare eligible. During that three month wait I exhausted my 401K in order for us to be able to stay in our home. During that three months my Children and I were covered under MO Medicaid. When I received my first SSDI check I also received a letter from MO Dept. of Social Services stating I was no longer eligible for MO Medicaid. The reason being now that I am receiving SSDI I exceed 85% of the poverty level but I could participate in the Spend Down program. There was no way I could do that because my formulated spend down amount was \$700 per month, over half of my SSDI! Having a chronic illness of MS I had to forgo many of my meds, therapies and doctor visits which increased the severity of my disease. I later learned this "program" and other changes were enacted by Matt Blunt when he was Governor of MO, which overnight left over 250,000 men, women, and, children without health care insurance.

With the MO legislation's majority ruling party's refusal these past years to expand Medicaid through the ACA coupled with the introduction of the Graham Cassidy Bill, it must not go forward because of my youngest child. In April of 2010 my son was diagnosed with brain cancer having a baseball sized malignant tumor on his Pituitary Gland that needed immediate surgery. Years prior my son had dozens of tests, scans, and MRI's. The tumor was so small and undetectable for years until that fateful day. If it wasn't for MO Medicaid I would never of had health care insurance for my children after losing my job. Having MO Medicaid, and God's intervention of course, saved my son's life! I'm thankful to say he is a six year plus survivor to date. With ten months of chemo and radiation to get him cancer free he still needs continued monitoring, blood work, preventive screenings, etc. When my children first started MO Medicaid I did have to pay a monthly premium. After the ACA was passed I did not have to pay a premium anymore which was another blessing because of my fixed income. Soon after GOP controlled Leg. changed it back to costly premiums. With the majority party's continued refusal to expand MO Medicaid through the ACA and now with the introduction of the GCB consequences are far reaching. As a parent and a Missourian I'm fearful that the GCB will limit funding for life saving resources like MO Medicaid and access to Federal funding in case of natural disasters, disease outbreaks, etc. The ACA has continued to allow my brain cancer surviving son to receive all necessary services premium and copay free, but not premiums now, because of GOP the MO Leg.

Richard G. Green
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bross, Tanner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: On Insurance

To the Senators of the Finance Committee:

My name is Tanner Bross. I'm currently in pharmacy school at St. Louis College of Pharmacy, and I'm not entirely sure what I want to do when I graduate. I'll be 24 when that happens – but my plans after that are undecided. I may pursue a residency, I may go to school to become a physician's assistant, or I may even decide to go to medical school. All of these are options for me. However, with all of these options, I won't have an actual job until after I'm 26, meaning that I'm going to have to get my own insurance for the first time. And school is expensive, and I'm a poor college student, so I'm not sure if that's affordable for me.

And the worst part is that the Graham-Cassidy bill is going to make it so much more expensive for me, my friends, my parents, and everyone else not in the top 1%.

And, senators, I have another problem – I work in a pharmacy. I know how expensive medications are, and what happens when people don't take them (it never ends well). It's a hard conversation to have. I don't really know how to react. I'm not good at explaining to people that I can't give them their medications that they need to prevent seizures, or lower their blood pressure, or treat their infections, or treat their diabetes, or treat their *kid's* diabetes, or anything else. So gutting Medicaid? It's going to make my life significantly more difficult. It's going to kill people. My patients would no longer have access to medications for themselves or their children.

How do I tell someone that I can't help them, and that their only option is to use their paycheck for their medication? That's not living – or at the very least, not a life I want to live.

So please, have a heart, do the right thing, and reject the Graham-Cassidy bill. Work together to make a bipartisan effort to improve healthcare for everyone.

Sincerely,
Tanner

Tanner M. Bross

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Bartholomew <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

No one likes this bill - not state governors, not health care professionals, not insurers, and most of all, not the majority of Americans.

The 2018 elections are not that far away what you do now will a relatively fresh memory. Do the right thing and vote this bill DOWN!

Paul Bartholomew
St. Louis, MO.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew Davis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on Graham/Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

The proposed Graham Cassidy Bill is abhorrent and cruel and horrible for the American people. Numerous professional associations with expertise in the delivery and analysis of healthcare has said as much.

Do not sacrifice people's lives for the sake of political posturing. Vote **NO** to the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill.

Matt Davis
Kirkwood, MO [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: WM BIEDENSTEIN [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Please, do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.
This legislation is of great concern because:

- It takes the federal funding for the Medicaid expansion coupled with the funding for premium tax credits for moderate-income households and converts it into a block grant with a very big cut.
- No Medicaid expansion states would be allowed to resume the expansion after the block grant ends in 2026. This means this bill effectively Eliminates the Medicaid expansion permanently
- Starting in 2020, the bill converts the rest of the Medicaid program (elderly, kids, etc.) to a per capita cap with deep cuts.
- The Medicaid block grant eliminates the basic consumer protection around benefits and thus eliminates protection for those with pre-existing conditions.

Bill Biedenstein
[redacted]
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ehood9920 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I Oppose Graham-Cassidy /ACA repeal

I am writing to express my disapproval of the Graham-Cassidy bill, which will destroy health care as we know it for millions of Americans, including the sick, poor & elderly. This bill will remove protections of patients with pre-existing conditions. The bill will cause premium increases for women and the elderly. The bill will cause millions to lose coverage due to cruel Medicaid cuts, and many affected are infants & children.

I encourage you to scrap this terrible bill and focus on a bipartisan effort to reform & improve the ACA, which has been a blessing and saved the lives of millions. I also believe you should focus on reducing health care costs, such as prescription drugs and hospitalizations. If costs can be reined in, premiums will also fall. Please do your job by representing your constituents instead of corporate interests/donors.

Elizabeth Barnfield
Bloomfield, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carrie Pettus-Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Matt Davis
Subject: vote no on Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

The proposed Graham Cassidy Bill is abhorrent and cruel and horrible for the American people. Numerous professional associations with expertise in the delivery and analysis of healthcare has said as much.

Do not sacrifice people's lives for the sake of political posturing. Vote **NO** to the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill.

Carrie Davis
Kirkwood, MO [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Crac [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy bill

Sent from my iPad

My husband and I had United Healthcare. Paid nearly a thousand a month for coverage with a 5000\$ deductible. I went into anaphylactic shock and was taken to the E.R. By ambulance. United said neither of the ambulance providers in Kansas City were in network(?) so we had to pay the entire bill ourselves and it didn't go against deductible. My daughter had scoliosis surgery and needed Pre-surgery tests. Had them done in one day. Insurance said they would only cover one test per day so we should have gone to the hospital seven days in a row in order to be covered. This is the most broken system and we are people with some means and private insurance. Obamacare is a good start, you should not try to destroy it because the Koch brothers tell you to. It is desperately needed by the American people and they won't forget what you do.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eisenberg, David [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT approve the Graham Cassidy bill

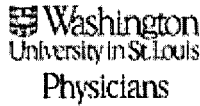
I am reaching out to you on behalf of my patients, my friends and family, and myself. The Graham Cassidy bill will potentially leave millions without access to health care, caps on Medicaid funding which will hurt the poorest of our citizens, end possibilities for expanded Medicaid, and allow states to opt out of the ACA's consumer protections. These protections for patients with pre-existing conditions have been crucial to improving the health and well-being of our communities. Finally, forcing insurance plans to include essential health benefits like maternity care and mental health services is crucial to ensuring a healthy population.

Thank you,
David L. Eisenberg, MD, MPH, FACOG

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 64
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

eisenbergd@wustl.edu

To ensure the security of patient information, I will only email patients through the Washington University FollowMyHealth patient portal. For information about creating a portal account, visit: wuphysicians.wustl.edu/portalinfo



NATIONAL LEADERS IN MEDICINE

The materials in this message are private and may contain Protected Healthcare Information or other information of a sensitive nature. If you are not the intended recipient, be advised that any unauthorized use, disclosure, copying or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please immediately notify the sender via telephone or return mail.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shanna Hanson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Importance: High

A large part of my job is to maintain a vigilance over health care news and legislation; particularly its impact on Medicaid, Medicare, hospitals and insurers. I have been in the healthcare field for 25 years, am an expert on Medicaid, and have seen many changes over the years.

The literature I have reviewed around the Graham-Cassidy proposal has reflected the harm it will do. The only positive thing I have read is that states will have more control. Not all states want that control. When Governors are pushing back, even Republican Governors are saying this proposal is bad news, you should stop and listen.

Take inventory of what the experts are saying about the Graham-Cassidy proposal and you will see what I see. This is bad for our country and its healthcare.

Please vote NO!

Shanna Hanson, FHFMA
Manager, Business Knowledge
Human Arc

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Hartung [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement re: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy for the SFC hearing on Monday

"I believe that coverage could be at risk for tens of millions of Americans under the Graham-Cassidy proposal.

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

For these reasons, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy plan."

David Hartung

Concerned Citizen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy

Graham-Cassidy is NOT a healthcare bill, but an anti-healthcare bill. No CBO score, excoriated by medical professionals, and terrifying to those of us with preexisting conditions, even those of us who work full-time - it would be, undoubtedly, an unmitigated disaster.

If it passes, even though the Koch brothers have closed their wallets until yet another piece of Obama's legacy is demolished, the R senators in office will have sealed the ends of their political careers. We will make certain of it, from one coast to the other, and beyond.

Be the heroes. Be the ones who create Medicare for all. Call it whatever you want. Make sure that the RIGHT of quality healthcare is extended to every single citizen, and the entire climate of political decisiveness in this country will change, in one fell swoop. That the Republicans cannot understand how important that is astounds me.

From - a blue city in the red state of Missouri -

Mindy Carney

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Kahoe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

I am contacting you with serious concerns about the Graham-Cassidy plan to destroy the Affordable Care Act. This plan would drive up premiums and cause thousands of people in my state of Missouri, as well as throughout the United States, to lose their insurance coverage and would give states a way to repeal protections for people with pre-existing conditions. We need to expand access to affordable health care -- not weaken protections for Americans.

Thank you,

Cathy Kahoe
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Victoria McMullen [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@u>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid bill

My adopted 38-year-old son with multiple disabilities would not have been adopted without Medicaid. As two schoolteachers we couldn't afford his medical bills. When I had surgery to fuse 3 vertebrae in my back and was told by the doctor that I should no longer physically assist him, Medicaid was what allowed him to stay in our home and receive the care he needs. Without Medicaid waiver he has, he would be institutionalized at for greater cost and with a much lower quality of life.

Victoria McMullen
Professor and Department Chair
Department of Teacher Education
Webster University

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] u

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Cusumano [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: impact of Graham-Carter bill on students with disabilities

To Whom It May Concern,

Decreasing Medicaid financial support is detrimental to students in Raytown Schools. With the money reimbursed we are able to provide mental health and medical health supports our families cannot afford. Students are able to attend school more regularly, receive supports while at school and be a healthier individual.

Please do not negatively impact Medicaid resources.

Amy Cusumano

Amy Cusumano | Director of Special Education | Raytown Quality Schools
District Administration Building [REDACTED]

Expect the Exceptional!

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Nicholson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC bill

I am a 55 year old women from a small town in Missouri and I have a preexisting condition.- a brain aneurysm. My healthcare bills this year alone will top \$300,000. Thankfully they were able to put a stent in and hopefully this will take care of the aneurysm. Also thankfully I have great insurance. But what about next year. Or the year after. What if I lose my job? Leave Obamacare in place and fix the problems. Vote no on this horrendous GC bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Spiegel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care hearing

I am from Washington state and oppose "block grants" and any health care repeal!

Lisa Morasch
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matt Mazany [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy is irresponsible

To Whom it May Concern,

The Graham Cassidy bill seems to be a disaster from every independent evaluation I can find. How can you consider this bill without truly giving it a proper look. Find out what it does before you vote on it.

All I can tell from what I've read is that it hurts people. People lose coverage. Premiums go up. Worst of all it allows states to let insurance companies to charge whatever they want for pre-existing conditions.

It's disgusting that they have to put provisions to bribe senators in states that have stated that they want to vote based on principal.

Scrap this hurtful bill and start working on bipartisan bills (Alexander Murray) and PLEASE do something to help Puerto Rico.

With (conditional) respect,
Matt Mazany

--
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bart King [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Wright, Kevin (Finance); Dent, William (Isakson)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comments

Hello,

My name is Bart King, and I live in Athens, Georgia.

I am in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill, because it appears that the bill would allow states to opt out of requirements for insurers to cover people with pre-existing conditions. I understand this pool of people—which includes myself and Senator Isakson—are more expensive to insure. But surely there is a logical and humane way for our wealthy nation to help cover these costs—rather than just kick vulnerable people out of the system.

I am self employed, and I've purchased health insurance for my family through the ACA marketplace for the last few years. And while the increasing costs are a concern of mine (that I would like to see addressed) losing my access to coverage is NOT how I want them to be addressed.

Again and again, I've heard Republican politicians say they want to replace ACA with a better system. But now I'm beginning to see that the question is: better for whom? Certainly not for people with pre-existing conditions or people who need Medicaid.

I urge you to set this bill aside and begin working on a true bi-partisan effort to create fair, stable healthcare legislation that will support the people of this country and it's future.

Sincerely,
Bart King

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Garwood [REDACTED] n>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Pre-existing conditions

Dear Senate Hearing,

I am a healthy mother of two adult sons, a social worker by profession, married to a healthy pediatrician. This past summer we went through the HARROWING Experience of finding out our TWENTY FOUR YEAR OLD SON has PANCREATIC CANCER!!! Out of nowhere a healthy strapping young man became ill: severe weight loss, jaundice etc. We are very fortunate that he is still on our health benefit plan which has covered excellent medical care. And very fortunate that in New York City we have access to excellent surgeons and cancer care. He is currently recovering and going through chemotherapy. But this is a LIFELONG PRE-EXISTING CONDITION.

If the ACA protections for him are repealed, he is doomed. He would never be able to afford the ongoing screenings for recurrence of cancer, or, God forbid treatment if needed.

GRAHAM CASSIDY is a DEATH SENTENCE for our 24 year old son who deserves a chance at life. We beg you to be reasonable.

Sincerely,

Leslie Garwood LCSW and John Garwood, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Alvarez [REDACTED]@et>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: opposed to Graham/Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

I am privately insured through my work. So my opposition to this bill is based on my view of what is best for our country - not just what is best for me. This bill is a sham. Health care should not be left to each individual state - we've seen what they do with that. Health care needs a focused federal approach - just like national security.

If you don't take a comprehensive approach to health that ensures all members of our society have access to preventative and health care then we will all pay for it one way or another. What do you think happens when a person gets sick? They either go broke, go to the emergency room, or die.

Best regards,

Darline Alvarez

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Mage [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no

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.

We need a bipartisan solution. This means the Congress works as it should! Together to benefit ALL Americans .. and not to appease a president or wealthy donors.

This is still America, right?

Sincerely,

Nan Mager

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gretchen Diefenderfer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: tblei@cohealthinitiative.org
Subject: Gardner-Cassidy bill

September 25, 2017

Re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday Sept. 25 at 2 pm ET

I am writing to express my opposition to this proposal, along with most of the entire medical sector. It will effectively kick 30 million people off health insurance because, without the subsidies, they will not be able to afford it, provide significantly less money than before the ACA, cut Medicaid spending, plus turning it into block grants to the states, which will essentially destroy Medicaid, and end up costing all of us more for insurance. Almost all adults have pre-existing conditions and we would again be charged unaffordable amounts to have insurance. This is a horrible bill - the most radical, worst yet. We know this already even without the CBO information. We do need to improve the ACA, which is where the focus should be in order to provide healthcare to all, as all other advanced countries do.

This GCHJ bill has the support of only a small minority of Americans. To support it is to fly in the face of logic, compassion, and common sense. It may appease big donors, but it will hurt Americans and we will not forget.

Gretchen Diefenderfer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Matteson Bechard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom it may concern:

I have always been aware that I'm the kind of person who could be considered a "heavy user" of the insurance system. And if I'm honest, I've always felt some strange mix of guilt and gratitude about this. As a child, insurance covered over a dozen surgeries related to my cleft lip & palate. In my teens & 20s, it covered the stints in eating disorder rehab and years of therapy. In my 30s, insurance has covered fertility treatments, maternity coverage for a high-risk pregnancy, a C-section for twins, and 2 NICU stays last March.

I'm one of the lucky ones: because my parents always had stable, employer-covered health insurance, and because I've always had employer-covered health insurance as an adult, my family and I aren't bankrupt because of my medical needs. If we had fallen through the health care coverage cracks - as so many people do through no fault of their own - we surely would be. Because I've been lucky, I am a contributing member of society, and I'm not worried that my 18-month old twins will go hungry because of our medical bills.

Health care is a human right, period. I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy repeal plan, as my understanding is that this plan would allow insurers to not cover pregnancy, newborn care, mental health services, prescription drugs, rehab, or birth control. It's a plan that could potentially destroy the lives of people just like me.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to *improve* the ACA, not repeal it with a plan that is fundamentally unjust.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Bechard

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Billings <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Deborah Billings
Subject: OPPOSITION: For Graham Cassidy discussion TODAY
Attachments: Billings Sept2017 Graham Cassidy.pdf

Thank you for receiving this letter and registering my OPPOSITION to this bill.

Best,
Deborah Billings, PhD

September 24, 2017

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Today you will be reviewing and discussing the Graham-Cassidy bill, which purports to offer a “better deal” to the American people than the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”). The many flaws of this bill show that this will not be the case. This bill is truly an onslaught on so many fronts.

As a South Carolina resident, home of Sen. Graham, I have worked for the last decade with health systems throughout the state. During the past four years, I helped to build and launch an initiative that would increase women’s access to family planning services. As Sen. Graham knows, EACH YEAR over 300,000 women in our state are in need of **publicly supported** family planning services and supplies. Almost three-quarters (74%) of that funding comes from Medicaid and the rest from Title X. Federal funding has kept family planning services alive in South Carolina. Graham-Cassidy would effectively end that by sending state a per capita allotment for Medicaid and having states decide how those funds will be used. Having been involved with state legislature for the past decade, I know that dedicating Medicaid funds to family planning services will become politicized and complicated, thereby effectively tearing down the services that already exist (and which are still insufficient).

This bill will NOT have a positive impact on the people of South Carolina. Please vote NO.

Sincerely,

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

I leave you with a list of the health-related organizations that oppose this bill:

- Adult Congenital Heart Association
- ALS Association
- Alzheimer's Association
- Alzheimer's Impact Movement
- American Cancer Society

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine M. Edell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care. Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system. Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

It effectively ends Medicaid expansion. One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

It reduces help to purchase health insurance. Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,
Christine M. Edell, LCPC
(Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Health Center of Western Maryland, Inc.
[REDACTED] rt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frank Dinan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Ahc act

I am writing to urge to support reform, not repeal of the ACA. It is vital to the health and welfare of my family
MY
wife has Parkinson's disease and depends on the ACA in many ways
, As do other members of my family
Please reform this valuable legislation, do not vote to
repeal it.

Frank and Ann Dinan

in a truly bipartisan manner to redesign health care for all Americans, and vote for what is in the best interests of all your constituents rather than simply follow and support a health care party platform that aims to leave millions of Americans behind without medical insurance. Please support changes to the present health care coverage to ensure every American, especially those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, will qualify for and receive continued health care coverage and services to meets their needs.

Sincerely,
Helen Mack Naab
Delaware County, Pennsylvania

services for our most fragile citizens. For Congressional leaders to force states to ration their health and human service dollars on less money at the expense of the less fortunate and disabled members of our society is profoundly wrong and beyond understanding. This maneuver clearly lacks the "heart component of health care", which President Trump touted a few months ago would be an element of a new health care plan.

This issue is of utmost importance to me as I have a sibling who is age 56, has Down syndrome, and is in the far middle stages of Alzheimer's dementia. He also has other preexisting health conditions due to his advancing age and disabilities. He is now very limited in his speech, motor skills, and overall cognitive abilities. My brother receives his health care coverage through Medicare, and he resides in a care facility. He does not have a voice or vote in the current health care crisis, so I am speaking on his behalf, as well as millions of others who are likewise disabled and unable to communicate.

Regarding the proposed health care legislation offered by the Republican Party and heavily endorsed by President Trump, and in light of the mandate that states would receive a fixed, per person yearly amount to pay for Medicaid expenses, I pose the following questions: Are adult individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, who were once considered "wards of the state", due to their severe disabilities, and who earn no other income aside from what is provided each month from the state, part of this Medicaid expansion idea? If so, what will happen when the disabled individual exhausts his/her Medicaid per capita limit amount before the end of the calendar year? Who will then absorb the costs for needed medical expenses and health care services? How will the proposed Medicaid changes impact a waiver stream of funding?

I have been asking these questions of my state senator for the past several months now, and I have not received any answer or explanation. I am left wondering if any of the Senators who developed and support this health care plan, even know the answers to my questions. Do the legislators fully understand the impact their decisions will have on the disabled population's ability to access health care services under the Graham Cassidy framework?

It is essential the community of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities be a part of any discussion and decisions concerning the repeal and replacement of the existing health care program to ensure any changes to their current health coverage meet their medical needs. This is equally true for the provisions of Graham Cassidy or any future health care plan developed by members of Congress.

I implore Congress not to take away health care from millions of people with disabilities, unless a new health care plan maintains or improves existing coverage and access to needed medical care and services. It is morally wrong and incomprehensible to deny and take away health care from vulnerable Americans. We, as a country, need to do better.

Now is the time for all Senators and Representatives to do the right thing, and work with fellow Republican and Democratic members of Congress

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Naab [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am contacting you today about the proposed Graham Cassidy Bill, the current new health care program recently presented by the Republican Party Senate to its members. This proposed legislation differs very little from earlier plans developed by Republican Senators, and a vote on this measure is intended to be taken in the next few days in order to meet the Republican Senate's goal of a majority reconciliation vote deadline of September 30th. This rash approach leaves very little time for other members of Congress to fully read, comprehend and digest its contents. Likewise, this precipitous tactic appears to violate normal legislative process which includes public hearings, and prohibits a proper analysis of the bill's contents by the Congressional Budget Office. This entire situation is a slippery slope for our entire country.

I do not support this version of health care as it is currently written for many reasons. Among my chief concerns and objections to the Graham-Cassidy bill are that it proposes to fundamentally change and decimate the Medicaid Program by eliminating the federal commitment to serve all those who qualify for the program and subsequently shift the cost burden to states. Per capita limits and/or a block grant approach would be then be implemented. In my view, block grant funding for human services is not a sound way to base funding decisions. Medicaid is a lifeline for the disabled individuals who qualify for and who are enrolled to receive services required to sustain their health and quality of life. Block funding will cause vulnerable groups such as the elderly and senior citizens, disabled adults and children with special needs to compete against one another for fewer program dollars and much needed services. How is this fair? What happens when the disabled individual "runs out of his/her allotted block grant money" before the end of a specified time period? How will medical care and program services vital to their quality of life be provided without Medicaid?

Under Graham Cassidy, many provisions of Obamacare that are critical to individuals with disabilities would be repealed and eliminated. Over the next few years, Graham Cassidy proposes to cut \$178 billion from the Medicaid Program and use this money to fund block grants at the state level, only through the year 2026, with no apparent plan to fund block grants after that time. Once again, millions of Americans will be left without health coverage. These recommended changes to Medicaid will be particularly devastating for people with disabilities. Graham Cassidy, just as recent previous health care plans designed by the Republican Party, calls for the purposeful elimination of medical care and program

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristen Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Honorable Members of the U.S. Senate:

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

My father is a cancer survivor and if his coverage was capped would not have been able to receive the treatment he did. Putting anyone in a life or death position like this is just plain wrong.

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

Sincerely,

Kristen Thompson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
[REDACTED]n
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Ogg [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

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

Katharine Ogg
[REDACTED]

Trump care is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote “yes” on Trumpcare will be remembered in the next election and history books as anti-American. The medical profession is against it as are the majority of the voting citizens in this country. I am a mother of three children, and my husband and I are not currently employed following his company going out of business. Without the ACA, I do not know that my family would have adequate health insurance. The country is counting on you to make the right decision for us, which is to make sure that everyone in this country has access to comprehensive, affordable healthcare without regard to employment status or pre-existing conditions.

Sincerely,
Katharine Ogg

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: American Healthcare

For background:

I am a college educated, married (to a retired school teacher & current religious university adjunct), white male. For the last 40+ years I have been a businessman and a business consultant.

Point: Competitiveness

Our biggest business hindrance in the world market is the unknown future costs of healthcare to the small employer with 20 or less employees. The "Graham-Cassidy" legislation does nothing to address this issue, unless driving up uncertainty and costs is its goal - further destabilizing these businesses.

Young and middle age entrepreneurs and employees of small business employers are 1 emergency room visit from bankruptcy. This is a major problem any healthcare legislation should address. If the Affordable Healthcare Act is to be amended, tis area is a must.

Point: Societal Fabric

Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security are all necessary to America prospering. If any legislation is passed that does not improve the plight of these recipients, that is American Regression not Progress. Do not harm.

Thank you,
Michael Ledbetter
Dade City, FL

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Woudstra [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy - please vote no!

I am one of hundred of thousands of Americans who have agonized and lost sleep over the possibility of losing my health care coverage.

I am 59 years old and am self employed. Prior to passage of ACA, the only insurance I could qualify for was a catastrophic plan due to medical underwriting. And this was 20 years ago when I was younger and healthier. Lest you think I'm trying to get something for nothing, I pay all of my health care costs - no government subsidies! In between being self-employed, I had coverage through an employee and my coverage would change every year because my employer was always looking for a better price. I remember many people going bankrupt because of medical bills, lots of people who reached their cap or the drug or treatment wasn't covered by the policy. There were lots of fundraisers to help folks pay for treatment. Those less fortunate who could qualify for Medicaid, were not able to find any provider who would treat them. If they could find one, they would wait months for an appointment. California had a high risk pool that provided limited coverage and there was a long wait list to even be able to get into the high risk pool. Today, my insurance covers my drugs and approved procedures without months of fighting with them. Those who are currently on Medicaid are able to find providers and getting the medical care they need and many of them are now employed and no longer need assistance.

I am scheduled for surgery in January and if this bill passes, it is likely I will not be able to afford insurance. I pay over \$1,100 a month and I can't afford my premiums being multiplied by 5!

It is not just me. There are many seniors who rely on Medicaid to get nursing home care. The days when families could take care of their parents or grandparents is gone - we all have to work to pay the bills and can't quit to take care of them.

I am happy to have some of my tax dollars go to help for the health care of others. Would much rather have it go to someone I need than to pay for charter jets for the HHS Secretary to fly to a Ritz!

Please work together to fix ACA - ghat is what the majority of Americans want - listen to us!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jodi Beder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senators -

My family, my communities of fellow freelance musicians and editors, and countless friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I STRONGLY oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am one of the lucky ones, as I married someone with good coverage, and now I am old enough to be covered by Medicare, but if it weren't for this, I would be unable to afford health care. I have a number of preexisting conditions, including a bout with cancer. I can't imagine what I would be facing. I feel worst for parents of children - and future children - with preexisting conditions.

I believe in a federal government guarantee of universal health care. Many states have shown that they will not provide this guarantee.

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

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Hanse [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't Repeal the ACA

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I write as the proud parent of three daughters. The oldest is a special education teacher in Chicago public schools, the youngest I adopted from DCFS 18 years ago and my middle daughter was born with a brain stem injury that left her hearing impaired and with the kind of motor skills deficits that are associated with cerebral palsy. A year later (yes, at the age of one), she was diagnosed with Type I diabetes. Did I mention that she also suffers from depression and requires mental health services?

Maya's health care, at the moment, is covered by Medicare and Medicaid. Given cuts to funding for these programs, there is no guarantee that the good level of care she receives will continue. She is the very definition of someone with multiple pre-existing conditions.

When the ACA was passed I breathed a sigh of relief, thinking that, in spite of changes in government policies, Maya, now 27, would be able to access affordable health care, the way I did (as a small business owner) in the first years of the ACA.

My daughter received her Associates degree this year, holds a part-time job and hopes to complete a four-year degree in the next few years. But as a person with several disabilities and a chronic disease, she is likely to have more difficulty getting and keeping a full-time position job, which will put her health care coverage at risk if the ACA is overturned.

Let your conscience guide you in protecting Maya, people like Maya and the families who love them. Do your job. Represent the people. This is a deeply unpopular bill that will hurt so many deserving Americans. Take care of health care in a bipartisan and thoughtful manner, not a politically motivated thoughtless one. Do not add to our worries.

Linda Hanse

[REDACTED]

This is my beautiful daughter.

I respectfully ask that this bill be pulled from consideration and that both parties work together to fix the flaws in the Affordable Care Act.

In good health,

Emily Todebush

Washington, DC, by way of the great State of Michigan

At that time, my insurance company will be allowed drop me. That would force me to look for a new insurance plan. Because I have a pre-existing condition, insurance companies could deny me coverage outright or they would be able to charge me unaffordable insurance premiums, forcing me to go without. So, to those of you who roll your eyes when you hear someone on the news saying that there are people who might die without the Affordable Care Act: please, remember this story. MS does not provide a quick death, instead causing a slow breakdown of function and body processes that is both heartbreaking to watch and agonizing to experience.

In addition to removing protections for pre-existing conditions, this bill strips what are considered “essential health benefits,” which means that my insurance carrier wouldn’t have to cover any of my doctor’s visits, lab tests, MRIs, or prescription drugs that are critical to my care.

You see, my life is all about numbers. I am now part of an exclusive club; just one of the tens of millions of Americans who could lose their insurance coverage if you pass this disastrous legislation.

How a country cares for its most vulnerable population says a lot about who we are as a nation, about our character. The healthcare debate has always been about something more than politics. It’s about doing what’s right for the people who don’t have a voice. I choose to speak out about healthcare not to point out how sick I am, but to illustrate how sick I am not, and that is in large part thanks to the Affordable Care Act.

Since I was a very little girl, I have had a tremendous and overwhelming love for my country. I believe that while our union is not perfect, when we gather to debate, we bear witness to the enduring strength of our constitution. We affirm the promise of democracy. We are celebrating that our nation is truly an idea that is unique; carefully thought out and a masterpiece in the making. It demonstrates that what makes this country exceptional is our allegiance to an idea, a constitution, which our founders articulated many centuries ago. Our government was carefully designed as a government for, by, and of the people. It is all our call to duty to bridge the meaning of the words written as a Declaration of Independence with the realities of our time; for history tells us that while these truths may be self-evident, they’ve never been self-executing.

I am among the 32 million Americans who will be hurt by this bill. Because I live in Washington, DC, I do not have a Senator to call. I don’t have representation in my own government; someone to plead my case to. Instead, I am writing you a letter, to be submitted into the record of a hearing that I am not allowed to attend, much less testify in person.

I have a face. I am a person. I am someone’s daughter, sister, grand-daughter, niece, aunt, significant other, and friend. I want to live a full and prosperous life. I want to grow old. I want to feel the sun on my face and breathe a sigh of relief that the Congress in which I have no say in electing, is somehow remembering that I am a person too. Someone whose health hangs in the balance of this hearing, this vote, and this Congress.

In early October 2012, I was experiencing a very specific pain behind my right eye. The pain was excruciating and hurt every time I moved my eye. Have you ever wondered how much you move your eye in a 10-minute span? Spoiler alert: It's a lot.

I had started a new job just 60 days earlier and for 30 more days, I was only covered by a "catastrophic" insurance plan, which meant I could only see a doctor in the ER and my deductible was \$10,000. No other doctor's visits were covered. Not exactly generous, but I was a healthy twenty-something. What could go wrong?

Because I am not rich, I had to wait until my new insurance kicked in before I could see a doctor. Once I was finally covered and finally seeking help, I spent months dealing with neurological symptoms that evolved from eye pain to total numbness and tingling along the right side of my body to difficulty walking. I would oftentimes lay awake at night thinking how in the world I would get to work if I couldn't walk reliably. My life was changing in front of me, but I wasn't in control of any of it.

My experience is no different than anyone else with a pre-existing condition. Whether it's MS or cancer, the reality is the same; you are completely at the mercy of your insurance provider. That's only a portion of what makes Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson so terrifying.

Here's why it matters to me and everyone else with a pre-existing condition.

Before implementation of the Affordable Care Act, insurance companies were allowed to impose a "lifetime maximum" to your policy. Those lifetime maximums were oftentimes \$1,000,000, which is a number big enough that it seems unlikely you'll ever reach it. Unlikely unless you've experienced a serious health episode, that is. The Affordable Care Act outlawed lifetime maximums, but this bill reinstates that lifetime maximum provision.

Why does that matter?

Take me for example. My health insurance policy is charged more than \$100,000 a year for my cost of care. Of that \$100,000 a year, \$81,600 of that goes to pay for my disease-modifying drug, whose sole purpose is to slow and delay the ability for MS to destroy my central nervous system. If you are unfamiliar with the disease, I should tell you that the unpredictable way this disease attacks makes it very complicated for me to plan my future. This disease in its progression will deteriorate my brain and spinal cord, potentially causing paralysis and a whole host of other disabilities. Without my medication, MS would attack my body at will, and I would be a prisoner in my own body. And, if you used \$100,000 as an annual benchmark, I would exceed my insurance benefits in 10 years, when I will be just 42-years-old.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Todebush [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal Hearing - Emily E. Todebush testimony

Emily Todebush
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Washington, DC 20005

Senate Committee on Finance

Attn: Editorial and Document Section

Rm. SD-219

Dirksen Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510-6200

Re: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal Hearing, September 25, 2017, 2:00 pm

September 25, 2017

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the other distinguished members of this committee:

It is with heavy heart that I submit my testimony in opposition of the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. I would like my written testimony to be included in the hearing record.

Birthdays, phone numbers, addresses. Our lives are oftentimes summed up by a series of numbers that help tell the story of where we came from and where we're going. On February 26, 2013, I added another number to my collection: 340, the international diagnostic code for multiple sclerosis. I was 27-years-old.

Let me back up.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Koch [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Good Morning.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, leads me to this conclusion. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA rather than repeal it.

Sincerely,
Karen Koch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sian Binney [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Sian Binney
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sasha Buchert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Sharon McGowan; Jenny Pizer; Scott Schoettes
Subject: Letter from Lambda Legal in opposition to HR 1628
Attachments: Lambda Legal Testimony in Opposition of HR 1628 for Inclusion in the Hea....pdf

To whom it may concern,

Attached is a letter from Lambda Legal in opposition to HR 1628 for the record in today's hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal.

Thank you,
Sasha Buchert

Sasha J. Buchert

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] or
[REDACTED]
2 [REDACTED] (f)
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@lambdalegal.org

Lambda Legal: Making the case for equality

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email transmission from Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. and any documents, files or previous email messages attached to it may contain confidential information that is legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of any of the information contained in or attached to this transmission is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify us by reply email or by telephone at 202-740-0914 and destroy the original transmission and its attachments without reading or saving it in any manner. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeryl Hayes [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the Record for Finance Committee Hearing on 9/25/17
Attachments: Physicians for Reproductive Health ACA Senate Finance Committee Hearing Statement for the Record.pdf; Change.org Providers Supporting ACA.pdf

Dear Senate Committee on Finance,

Please find attached a statement for the record from Physicians for Reproductive Health for today's hearing on the Graham Cassidy bill. Also attached is a petition signed by over 600 health care providers in opposition to repealing the Affordable Care Act.

Thanks,
Jeryl Hayes

[Redacted Signature]



[Redacted Contact Information]

Charity Navigator's highest-rated reproductive rights organization

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Levi [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy bill does not represent the best interests of Americans

To the Senate Finance Committee,

Please be advised that the Graham-Cassidy bill will not provide access to maternal child health care and reproductive health care services for the millions of women who currently rely on public funds for coverage. Unequally shifting the burden of coverage to individual states unfairly targets individuals in geographic areas that have already experienced an unfair burden of economic hardships.

Please consider ALL of the voters as you attempt to ration health care services.

Respectfully,

Amy Levi

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CO
[REDACTED]

preferred pronouns: she, her, hers
I pay respect to the past, present and future First Peoples on whose land we live and work. I acknowledge the loss of lands, cultures and treasures that have had immense consequences for people, communities and nations.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kgavin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Finance:

I oppose the Graham Cassidy Health Care Proposal, and implore you to vote no.

This bill could risk health coverage for millions of Americans, including myself and most of my family members. This bill could bring back lifetime limits on care, make it impossible for those with pre-existing conditions to afford care, eventually dismantle Medicaid leaving its recipients with no care, and eliminate essential health benefits. You say it gives "choice" and "flexibility" to the states, but what kind of choice will Americans directly affected by this bill have, if we have to choose between health care, food, prescriptions and housing.

If we're going to reform our health care system, we shouldn't reduce the number of people who are covered -- we should be making it easier for those who aren't covered to add insurance. Improving the ACA, which has helped millions afford comprehensive coverage and is supported by the majority of Americans, through a bipartisan approach, seems the much better and lasting option.

An overwhelming majority of Americans do not support this bill. There are no health experts or organizations that support this bill to date. Most governors oppose it as well, including some Republican governors. I have read that republican senators are pushing this bill to gain tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations, because they oppose anything with President Obama's name on it, and in order to fulfill qualifications that the Koch brothers have put on a \$400 million donation. How is any of this helping most Americans and our health care coverage? It seems petty, spiteful and focused totally on self interests.

I'm asking you to vote no on the Graham Cassidy Bill and to protect coverage for families like mine. Please show the courage to see outside party lines and do what's best for the U.S.; my family is depending on you!

Thank you,
Kathleen Gavin

Sent on my Samsung Galaxy S® 5

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Harris [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My family, other relatives, and friends rely on access to affordable health insurance. I am very opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill in terms of its content and the process of drafting the bill and calling for a vote.

Healthcare legislation should not be developed in a partisan vacuum or in haste. The CBO analysis is a significant tool to understand the costs and impact of legislation. It should be available before any vote. Hearings should be held. Medicare took eight years to become law. It was studied and debated extensively. So were CHIP, Medicare Part D and ACA, which had 179 hearings and was analyzed and debated over 15 months. This is too important to get wrong!

My sister and her husband have pre-existing conditions. My nephew just turned 26 and is in college working on an Associate's degree. He needs financial help to afford health insurance. My closest friend's husband, age 58, was just laid off and is a cancer survivor. He should not see his premium soar beyond his ability to pay nor have his pre-existing condition restrict his coverage.

Please work within the customary legislative process on a bipartisan bill to improve ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ryan Mosseau <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL!

The American people do not want this. We need our healthcare! PLEASE DO NOT PASS GRAHAM CASSIDY

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Hopkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

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

Sincerely,

David Hopkins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frances Lunney [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill

Please do not approve this reckless effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Many Americans will lose health care and those with pre-existing conditions will not have the same important protections they do now. I am on Medicare, hence not directly impacted by ACA or the new version of it, but have experienced first-hand the devastating effects of a chronic illness. My significant other is alive today because under ACA, he was able to get insurance with a pre-existing condition.

Frances Lunney
Green Valley, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aletia Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy: Illness is a Hurricane, Personally and Financially

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this month, the Senate rightly and generously voted to authorize billions of dollars in assistance to residents of the states hit hard by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

How is it that Congress is unable to see how similar illness is to a hurricane? Like floods and high winds, serious illness is personally and financially devastating to its victims. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses are as much the victims of a natural disaster as are those whose lives, livelihood and homes are destroyed by a hurricane. They deserve to be treated with the same consideration and generosity of spirit as the hurricane victims.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Thank you for your consideration and support for all Americans.

Aletia Morgan
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erika Beers [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy
Attachments: image1.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Senators,

My five year old daughter is an exceptional child. She is remarkably bright, curious, and determined. She is autistic and depends on medical assistance in addition to our private insurance to ensure she can attend public school with a one-to-one aide who helps keep her safe and focused. It's a necessity in her classroom for her, her teacher, and her classmates (who adore her). Avery might astound you with her verbal abilities and incredible memory. She might tell you about Carl Sagan and the book Cosmos, which she listens to nearly every day. She might recount experiences from when she was just 2 years old. But she has trouble sitting down for long periods of time. She is prone to following her boundless curiosity wherever it leads her. She sometimes falls to piece if something isn't just so. She will one day be able to manage those things with the love and boundaries we provide at home and the patience and guidance of her teachers and her aide, in addition to the maturity that comes with age.

My mother is currently an ACA and Medicare subscriber. She is an amazing woman. She counsels my family, helps us get through our private trials, and worked her entire life to provide for her family. After working her way up through a company where she started as a computer programmer and ended in upper management, she and my father moved to Montana in the shadow on Granite Peak. My mother got a part time job in the post office and spent her days active and happy. At just 64 she was diagnosed with stage IIIC ovarian cancer. Medicare is keeping her alive. And her life is so lovely. She is seeing her five grandchildren grow. She continues to anchor my family. Without the coverage Medicare provides, she and my father would exhaust their significant retirement savings in short order, leaving my father with nothing when she dies. They were so careful with every dollar for their whole working lives to ensure they would be financially secure in retirement. Everyone should have access to insurance that ensures that they don't have to make a choice about ending their lives to prevent their family from going into bankruptcy because of medical costs.

There are people who desperately need medical assistance - truly their lives depend on it. Denying them services that enable them to live is staggeringly cruel. Denying them services that enable them to live will kill them. Please do not go down this path. We are better than this. Infants, the elderly, people in the prime of their lives - they depend on access to health insurance. Expand it to more people, don't take it away. It is America's shame that we are even having this national conversation. Instead of managing my household, I have to take time to beg you not to strip services from my five year old while I bounce my 9 month old on my hip.

I know Avery can count on you to make sure she can have an education fitting her brilliant mind. I know my mother can count on you to not let her make an impossible choice. I know the millions of people who depend on ACA and medical assistance can count on you to recognize that their lives are worthy of coverage equal to the insurance you enjoy. We're all waiting here while you have our security and health in your hands.

Erika Beers
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: mama hess [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: What are you thinking?!!!!

A bill that has had no vetting or hearing that could consign millions to a loss of health coverage is unthinkable. Do the right thing and kill repeal of ACA and work across the aisle for sane solutions.

Do the right thing thing!!!

Thank you,

M. Hess

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Henry W [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments; leslie.fickling@resourcecenter.org; Sophia Roberts
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I am a survivor of over twenty two years of abuse at the Willowbrook State School in Staten Island, NY. I have Aphasia, Double Clubfoot, and am wheelchair bound. Thanks to the ACA and Medicaid, I have a good life. Any cuts to either program will result in drastic negative impacts on my life. I ask you to vote NO on the Graham Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kodi L. Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Kodi Wilson
Subject: Block Grant Medicaid will kill my son

Trying to raise a medically complex child (keep them alive) is an exhaustive 24-7 duty. It takes an emotional, financial and physical toll on every family member. After fighting a monstrous battle to get him help from Medicaid, we have the help he needs to stay alive, and his parents have the ability to work 2 jobs each. Without Medicaid as a secondary insurance, we would be destitute and living off multiple government programs. WITH Medicaid, we are productive, tax-paying on four-jobs citizens of America. We are able to do community service and relief work. We were able to adopt an orphan. Our son is alive and healthy. Without Medicaid - NONE OF THIS IS POSSIBLE.

Block grant Medicaid would take away the services that have allowed our family to flourish as productive, contributing members of society. Taking it away puts the lives of thousands of American families just like ours at risk by pushing us into poverty, and taking even more from the government than we did before. It keeps our marriage together. It keeps us as one productive household, instead of two single-family, government-assistance households.

Please keep these life-saving programs IN PLACE the way they are.

It will only take one prolonged hospital stay or emergency surgery to send our family to bankruptcy, even with good insurance. We can barely afford the private insurance as it is, and can hardly keep up with the out-of-pocket expenses as well. We are well over the 3-million dollar mark in our son's 11 year lifetime.

Families who count on these services to keep their children alive, healthy and unhospitalized. For our families, these issues really are about life and death. The real cost of cutting these programs is the lives of US citizens. For some, losing these services will mean untimely suffering and death.

Please, I beg of you, do NOT approve
-Lifetime limits
-Per capita limits
-Pre-existing conditions
for ANY plan proposed to this legislative body.

If you don't KILL these stipulations, you will in fact kill real human citizens. I thank you for your consideration,
Kodi L. Wilson
Baton Rouge, LA
Mom to 11-year-old Braden (needs 6 machines to keep him alive, and 28 medications a day)
Mom to 2-year-old Laila (without adoption would be a US orphan, also has health issues)

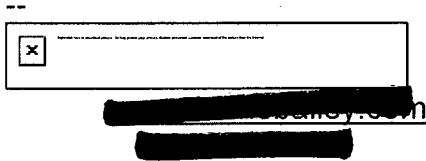
Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Bailey
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't repeal ACA

Dear Senate Finance Committee,
My husband has cancer. He is being treated and thank goodness it's treatable. The only way we can afford his medical care is because we have affordable health insurance. He will now have a pre-existing condition his entire life. We have two children and they deserve to have their father healthy and around for a very long time.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill would make getting insurance near impossible for us in the future, we would have to decide between my husband's care and our children's college education. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Laurie Bailey
Goleta, CA

--
A rectangular box with a small 'x' icon in the top-left corner, used for redacting a signature. Below the box are two lines of blacked-out text.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ariane [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO

Please take a moment to think about the massive harm this bill will do to our country. Not only will it take healthcare away from millions of people, but it will affect 1/6 of the economy. This bill is heartless, cruel, and would only serve as a political win for the GOP. I understand that you would all like to strip away President Obama's legacy, but the ACA is working for most of your constituents.

This is the worst of the bills you have tried to pass. Have a heart and vote no. The future of this country depends on it.

Thank you,

Ariane Mandel
A concerned citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Ruby [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

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

Sincerely,
Mike Ruby, Webster, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michele Lambert [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA!

I'm self enjoyed and was not able to afford healthcare before the ACA came about. It was a scary way to live...afraid of getting sick or hurt because I wouldn't be able to afford medical costs if I did. I need ACA, not just for my healthcare, but for my peace of mind.
Thank you Obama Care!
Michele Lambert
San Diego, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JACK MCCULLOUGH [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: JACK MCCULLOUGH
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill—NO!!

Please vote down the Graham-Cassidy bill that would provide states with funding to establish health insurance programs outside ACA protections and mandates, an approach that can force millions off insurance rolls. As a result, 50 states would have to create their own insurance programs. The expertise does not exist at the state level

The bill would significantly cut federal funding for health coverage over the next decade, and the cuts would grow dramatically in 2027, when the bill's temporary block grant (which would replace the ACA's Medicaid expansion and marketplace subsidies) would expire and its Medicaid per capita cap cuts would become increasingly severe. Cassidy-Graham Block Grant and Medicaid Per Capita Cap Would Cut Federal Funding for All States by 2027.

The provisions protecting people with pre-existing conditions are a sham, since states can request a waiver with the mere assertion that they will provide affordable access.

Why is healthcare for citizens something many other countries can solve and not ours?

This is terrible for the American people. Don't even consider it! Stop the politics around healthcare decisions. Work on bipartisan solutions. Invite in those organizations whose members represent different facets of healthcare. Whatever you do for the country should be exactly what you accept for yourselves and your families. How would *you* be harmed if Graham-Cassidy is signed into law?

Jack McCullough
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharmila Nambiar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham Cassidy

Dear Committee,

I am a self-employed attorney with two employees. I do not receive any ACA subsidies; however, ACA benefits my employees and me because we have minor pre-existing conditions. Furthermore, I have been part of the 49% that pays taxes since I graduated from law school twenty 24 years ago, unlike most of the deadbeats on Medicaid in states like West Virginia, Texas, Ohio, who don't pay taxes at all and refuse to work. Please focus on the middle class and protect ACA. If you get rid of ACA so that I cannot afford insurance and become sick, my employees will not have jobs. Please think about how this impacts people and vote no on Graham-Cassidy. Because of this Bill, Bernie Sanders is furthering his agenda of single payor. It is your fault that single payor is gaining in popularity. You need to improve ACA but not repeal it.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] W
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 7
[REDACTED]
([REDACTED])

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with a pre-existing condition is Breast Cancer. If this bill passes and I have a recurrence I will die! Plain and Simple. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Pamela Dunlap
New York City
New York

Canadian medications are not an option for us. We have already concluded that an ACA repeal will effectively disable him, take away his ability to work, bankrupt our family, make him, us dependent on the state and possibly kill him.

The irony is that with his medications & treatment, John is pretty healthy, works fulltime (pays taxes), is a father to our two young children, a Boyscout leader, AND HE IS A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN!

Why are you knowingly voting to disable and potentially kill a working, law abiding taxpayer and crush his family financially? This story is not ours alone, many families are just one diagnosis, one incident, one large medical bill away from financial distress. Some don't even know it, until it happens to them. This is not about choosing an Iphone or fancy vacations over saving and paying for our own healthcare! We have both paid insurance premiums for over 30 yrs. now AND paid our TAXES! We are not in debt and self-sufficient, BUT we still cannot afford the medication and medical bills! Nor, can most working families.

I would like to know why Senator McCain deserves access to healthcare and treatment for his condition, but my husband who has almost the same condition does not. Can you answer that?

I would also like to know why there has been zero discussion about skyrocketing medical, drug costs & premium prices, deceptive billing practices (unbundling) and the lack of transparency both in billing practices and insurance policies.

Helena
204-444-4444 Silver Spring

301-261-3633
301-261-3633

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Darby [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: VanHollen, Senator (Van Hollen)
Subject: Healthcare Hearing the Graham-Cassidy Bill, Sept. 25
Attachments: FamilyPicX_July.jpg

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

[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

I write on behalf of myself and my husband, both registered voters in Maryland. We strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many of our reasons for opposing have already been convincingly laid out by major Medical Advocates, the AMA and the numbers from the last CBO score. This bill is not healthcare in any form, but a repeal of consumer protections. Insurance companies make a healthy profit (just as other type of insurances do) and we believe that they should be required to adhere to regulations/consumer protections structured by our elected representatives. The Healthcare market cannot be compared to any other "product based" market, nor, should it be. Unlike home and auto insurance (both purchases are optional, but insurance is mandatory), healthcare is a necessity. All people require and seek medical attention at some point in their lives. Most medical emergencies, needs and costs cannot be anticipated.

10 yrs. ago, my husband, John David (37yrs. at that time), had a serious, blood clot (much like Sen. McCain) except that it did not end there. After becoming very ill and two near death experiences, he was finally diagnosed with Polycythemia vera, blood cancer caused by an inherited genetic disorder. We were completely surprised! Up to then, he was a healthy, active young father. Having an ACA policy has provided us with good healthcare, peace of mind, the ability to keep John Darby alive and has allowed him to stay employed! Prior to the ACA, even though we had an employer plan, we fought the insurance companies every year to keep his lifesaving, daily medication (\$5200 monthly) covered in their plan. Every year, the ins. company consistently "wrote the medications out" of the employer plan. Employers always seek and choose the cheapest plans, often unaware of the fine print exemptions or even the impact on their employees. We were unsuccessful in keeping the meds covered. At that point, our choices were to switch jobs or ask his employer for help. When we asked his employer(s) for help with Ins. negotiations, they helped, but then shortly afterward, he was mysteriously "laid off". This has happened twice now! I believe it happened because we disclosed his condition to them AND the employer realized they would have to pay higher costs to provide insurance.

If the ACA and it's protections are repealed, John will no longer be able to obtain insurance that we can reasonably afford due to his pre-existing condition. The same for me, since I have been pregnant and that will be considered a pre-existing condition too. I worked in the medical and insurance field prior to the ACA and the truth is that I saw many people who were routinely denied insurance or quoted outrageous premium prices, denied medication, treatment and even hospitalization. I understand the implications of this bill very well. The GOP Senator's statements are wishful thinking, repeated rhetoric and certainly not accurate! The Graham-Cassidy bill (ACA repeal) is not an improvement, but a return to the past.

My family will most likely be forced to use our retirement savings (liquidate 401k) and home equity and eventually go bankrupt paying for his lifesaving meds & treatment (cost for both is 72K annually) and after that, all we can do is hope that he can be treated/saved daily at the local ER room. If he is denied treatment at the hospital, he will stroke out and die within a few weeks. His specialist, Dr Craig Kessler agrees that is our only recourse. Dr . Kessler has said that

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Hare [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

My family and I on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a self-employed person, and while I currently have healthcare under my mother's plan as I am not yet 26, I will be relying on Medicaid for healthcare after my next birthday. I rely on several medications daily, and without healthcare, I don't know how I will afford the doctor's visits to prescribe them or the medicines themselves. I truly feel as though I should not have to beg the government to keep in mind that healthcare is a life or death situation. I am more fortunate than most, and repealing the ACA would be devastating for me. It would be catastrophic for so many of America's most vulnerable citizens. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: pc11609 [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I wish to state my absolute rejection to this heinous and abhorrent attempt to swindle the American public and put more money in the hands of the rich. The Republican party should be ashamed at even the idea of putting this miscarriage up for a vote.

Do the right and American thing and

VOTE NO!!!

Patrick Spaulding

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gabrielle Bordwin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fix ACA - Stop the Repeal

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on access to health care, as all do. I now go to bed at night counting up the doctors we all see, wondering if we can see any of them less regularly, and wondering how we'll get by if you accomplish your push to repeal. This is a thread that makes our lives possible—and allows us to take care of our children!

Please stop your efforts to dismantle ACA. We all know that Obamacare would function fine if the GOP wasn't sawing off its legs from under the table. The national stress this is creating is, in my view, a violation of your obligation to the American people.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Bordwin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul B. Ellis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senators should vote no on this bill

All senators should vote no on this terrible bill.

Numerous Republican Governors, medical associations, and all 50 state Medicaid administrators oppose this bill.

People like my friend Hanna, who had leukemia as a child, has it again, and is receiving chemotherapy treatment, would have their premiums skyrocket and likely lose coverage due to states being allowed to permit insurance companies to discriminate based on preexisting conditions.

She is a constituent of Sen. Portman and a student at Ohio State, like me. It's unclear how she would be able to afford treatment to enable her to live the bright, long life ahead of her if this passes.

Paul B. Ellis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] University, Columbus, OH 43202

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shakia [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care. Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system. Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

It effectively ends Medicaid expansion. One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

It reduces help to purchase health insurance. Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,

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



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Audrey Fix Schaefer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO on Graham- Cassidy

If the provisions of this bill were so good for America, you'd have public hearings. You'd welcome the CBO score. Be a public servant and do what's right for people who deserve the same health care WE PAY FOR YOU TO GET.

This isn't about your party. It's about humanity.

We will remember your vote and what you do for — and to — us.

Audrey Schaefer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Boyne [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern:

I pay for the ACA and rely on the quality, affordable healthcare that it provides. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a member of the middle class, my premiums would raise under the Graham Cassidy bill, and my state Louisiana, will lose funding. The constant chaos around healthcare is already impacting my health--because Graham-Cassidy would increase the price of healthcare for people with pre-existing conditions, I am already at times avoiding seeking care in case something might be marked on my health record as a pre-existing condition, which would jack up the price of my coverage, which is already at a price that I can barely afford.

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

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Boyne
New Orleans, LA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: April Chambers [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

My name is April Chambers. I am writing today in regards to affordable quality healthcare. I am a freelance textile designer working in New York City. I am a single woman aged 36. I've built a successful career and have been lucky enough to be able to operate independently for the last 5 years of 15. I have been getting my health insurance through the Obama care plans since it's beginning! For me it is essential to have coverage, especially now that I am in my thirties! I have three conditions which regularly require specialist visits and special prescriptions to keep in check. Because of which, if I couldn't have coverage provided for me in this way I would have to change how I live completely. I don't have to tell you how impossible it would be to afford specialists at full price, not to mention the prescription drug costs! I wouldn't be able to afford it on my own, I would be forced to change my whole way of doing business. I would also most likely take a substantial pay cut, as there are far fewer full time jobs at my level of expertise available. Most people I know consider jobs overseas for this reason.

There are so many others that are in my shoes, freelance contractors have been on the rise, especially in design fields ever since the recession in 2008! We make up a growing percentage of work force. Don't clip our wings, it may end up effecting the bottom line more than you think.

Please include my story in support of keeping and improving the ACA not dismantling it. I rely on the having the Obama Care plan!

Thank you.
Sincerely,

April Chambers
Brooklyn, New York

--
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sanati, Muhria A. [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

My family and my patients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both my mother and mother in law have cancer- you can imagine how devastating that is... but for the first time, with ACA, they were not denied health care and they need to keep it. Please, please, please do not gut the ACA.

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

Sincerely,

M.A. Sanati

Playa de Rey, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julia Marden [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm begging you to vote down Graham-Cassidy. I'm a small-business owner, educator, and librarian who works with NYC municipal agencies and non-profits, and I rely on the ACA for my healthcare. Every month this year I've had to get down on my knees and beg you to save healthcare, and I'm not ashamed, I'll do it again.

Everyone in my family relies on the infrastructure created by the ACA -- my aging parents, my younger brother, and the love of my life, a self-employed business owner, like myself.

We are all of us fairly healthy, but we're also human, and we need access to basic check-ups and treatments for pre-existing conditions. We need the stability of knowing we're going to be able to afford healthcare should something go wrong, and that our hopes for the future won't evaporate into hospital bills and insurance payments. And frankly, we need you to stop jerking us around -- we didn't vote for you to sit around threatening our well-being every few weeks just to gain political points or make a few bucks.

I'm not going to comment on the policy implications of Graham-Cassidy because you haven't even let the experts comment. You don't have a CBO estimate, you didn't give healthcare professionals time to weigh in. This is not policy-making, this is politics, and you're hurting America.

So yes, I'm begging you to do the right thing, but I'm also taking a stand. I vote in every election, but I can do more. You keep threatening the lives of the people I love, and I will fundraise, campaign, march, and do everything in my power as a US Citizen to make sure you lose your next elections.

Your constituent,
Julia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ella Evans [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is not what America deserves

Hello,

As a young and healthy woman, I could probably forego health insurance and survive. However, this is not the reality for most Americans, and I am happy to pay my part for the betterment of all people in our country. There may come a day when my doctor discovers an unexpected illness or condition that turns my life upside down, as happened to my step-mother when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Without the protections that the Affordable Care Act provides to tens of millions of Americans, such a health-related surprise can destroy lives.

Because it does not provide protections for people with pre-existing conditions, weakens Medicaid, and will almost certainly drive up costs for people who need care, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan effort in Congress fix the issues plaguing the Affordable Care Act, but I do not want to see it repealed and I definitely do not want to see Graham-Cassidy made into law due to the damages that it will cause to our country.

Sincerely, Ella Evans

Tarrytown, NY 10591
[REDACTED]

--

Ella Evans

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matt Baldwin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Matt Baldwin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: TRACY THORPE [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy ACA Repeal

I am begging you to please put an end to this ACA repeal nonsense.
Enough is enough.

I don't think there is a person alive who would argue that the ACA needs some tweaking, but to throw the baby out with the bath water when it's taken most of my lifetime to even get an affordable Healthcare act in place, seems to not only be the most anti-productive, but also the cruelest thing to inflict upon the American public.

I am a single, middle-aged woman who has fallen on some hard times. Add to that a preexisting condition, & (before ACA) I was unable to get any sort of health insurance, period.

Please take a moment to consider the daily stress that causes in general....to go through life uninsured - to know that anything can happen, at any time, that could potentially wipe you off the face of the planet.

Now add to that the need to have regular blood work performed & to be on daily medication for the rest of your life. It's been a horrible struggle, but the ACA, has quite literally, saved my life.

Please stop being beholden to Big Pharma & Insurance Companies, THEY are the true culprits in this mess. I know they may pay for campaigns, but they don't vote. The American people do. So please stop trying to kill us.

I am literally begging you to end this repeal of the ACA once & for all & quit playing politics with our lives.

Thank you for your time & consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,
Tracy Thorpe

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Naomi Drew <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I urge you, beg you to NOT pass this cruel bill. The revised bill will harm millions. It will reduce federal funds to states by \$120 billion between 2020 and 2026 -- and by more than \$1 trillion through 2036, according to a recent study from Avalere Health. The Journal of American Medicine says. "There can be no doubt that Graham-Cassidy would boost the number of people without health insurance . . . It would immediately reduce the number of people with health insurance coverage by 15 million -- a figure that would grow by millions over time."

This bill will direly harm people with pre-existing conditions. According to CNN people with pre-existing conditions "could find themselves unable to afford insurance or to only buy bare bones policies that don't cover the treatments they need."

As I write these words, my young grandchildren are sitting by my side. They and their parents all have pre-existing conditions. What will they do if my grand-daughter needs another surgery to correct a malformation of her inner ear? What happens when my grandson's respiratory disease recurs? What if he has to be hospitalized again? Will my son lose his house to pay for his children's medical bills?

As a breast cancer survivor, I am at risk of going bankrupt if I have a recurrence -- this, after a lifetime of being a teacher, paying taxes, and supporting my community. I am not alone. My friends, family, and neighbors are wracked with fear about what this bill will do to them.

How can you sleep at night knowing what you are doing to innocent people? Innocent children? I beg you to do whatever you can to prevent the passage of this morally abhorrent bill.

Naomi Drew
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Zwirn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham Cassidy healthcare plan

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the current attempt to overturn the Affordable Care Act.

I have a congenital condition called hypoparathyroidism, considered a rare disorder by the National Institutes of Health, in which my parathyroid glands do not function, which can lead to blood calcium deficiency (hypocalcemia) and other associated impacts. Before the condition was properly diagnosed and treated, I was suffering muscle and nervous system impacts, but now with minimal medication and periodic visits to an endocrinologist, I am fully healthy and able to work, care for my family, and enjoy a full life with cycling, Ultimate frisbee, and leading my son's Cub Scout den.

My case is seemingly a mild one. But because hypoparathyroidism is a rare and potentially serious condition, private insurance — both health and life insurance — is extremely hard to secure for individuals with diseases like it, even when their condition is being managed appropriately with minimal disruption in their lives. Without the protections provided by the Affordable Care Act, it would be prohibitively expensive to purchase health insurance on the open markets.

It is unreasonable for insurers to punitively punish people like me, with chronic but manageable conditions, by excluding us or adding onerous high rates on the basis of the preexisting conditions. One of the key contributions of the ACA has been to require people with preexisting conditions can still be insured, allowing us to fully participate in the civil, economic, and professional life of the country. Stripping out these protections will have not only disastrous impacts on the families of those who lose access to coverage — or who have the nominal ability to be insured, but only at massive monthly premiums — but will also deny many Americans of the opportunity to create new jobs and new businesses, since they will be tied to employment that provides health coverage.

Moreover, this
Michael Zwirn
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Wolfson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

I am a single middle aged working woman who works full time and supports myself and relies on quality, affordable healthcare. I am a social worker who works with hundreds of people whose lives depend on it.

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

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Wolfson

Santa Barbara, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: shirley klock [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller Amendment

Feedback from this citizen: With all sectors of the medical profession adamant that this amendment will do more harm than good, why does it continue to be supported at all? I oppose this amendment and hope that, for the sake of the health of the country, that Congress sit down and do the real work they were elected to do: meaningful and human health care reform. Thank you. - Shirley Klock

Your life you live by the light you find
and follow it on as well as you can,
carrying through darkness wherever you go
your one little fire that will start again.

last stanza of William Stafford's poem, "The Dream of Now"

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice Barton, alicebartonmd@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Physician objecting to Graham Cassidy Healthcare Travesty

I am writing to comment on the Graham Cassidy Health"care" Travesty, pretending to be an Act.

This bill is the worst Republican effort yet--and they have all been horrific--in attempting to repeal and "replace" the ACA.

Many millions of your fellow citizens will lose their healthcare if this bill passes. Medicaid will be gutted. Those receiving subsidies for their ACA policies will not be able to afford coverage. The bill will gut care for the elderly in nursing homes, for the disabled, for the young, for the poor, and just about everyone who does not have an employer-provided plan.

Those with pre-existing conditions, despite the attempts to lie about this, will no longer be protected from prohibitive surcharges on insurance. Coverage for essential aspects of medical care, such as prescription drugs and preventive care for women, will be unattainable by many millions.

It is not clear to me how a physician could so undermine his own Hippocratic Oath.

Please bury this mean-spirited, unAmerican, inhuman bill whose only purpose is to please wealthy donors to Republican candidates.

Yours, Alice D. Barton, M.D.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
alicebartonmd@gmail.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Haacke [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSITION to Graham/Cassidy Bill

I believe that access to affordable, quality healthcare is a right of all citizens of the United States of America. Therefore, I am in complete opposition to the proposed Graham/Cassidy bill. The Affordable Care Act, while not perfect, is the law of the land and should be honored until such time it is "**refined**" NOT repealed! My expectation as a citizen of the United States is that the Congress will work together across the aisle, using regular order as American hero John McCain has suggested to repair the ACA!! I will be watching the outcome of this situation and will act accordingly in 2018 and 2020!!!

It is absurd and disturbing that the adolescent and chief, Donald Trump AND the Republican Party will not let this ridiculous repeal and replace vendetta go!! Let's move this country FORWARD, not backwards!! PLEASE!!!!

Sincerely,
Susanne Haacke
Rochester, Michigan

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: TH Waldman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve ACA - Don't Repeal it!!!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare and all people should have access to equal and affordable healthcare in America. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with [Medicaid, pre-existing condition(s), disability (visible and invisible), cancer, childbirth, mental health, affordability, etc.] is... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Together let's work to bring the CARE back to healthcare in America. People, not politics. Let's work together, please!

Please take care of the citizens of USA - all citizens! We need help to live a healthy and productive life - the power is in your hands!

Sincerely,

Tracie Waldman
[REDACTED]

CARE. TODAY. PLEASE.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SHEILA HAMILTON [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Dear Senators

Perhaps you are lucky enough to have never witnessed a doctor deliver a terrifying diagnosis to your child.

This past August, I watched as a young ER nurse leaned in and whispered to my daughter that she has leukemia.

The fear I felt that day is now overshadowed by the panic I feel at the prospect of Graham/Cassidy.

My daughter is twenty, a straight A Stanford engineering student who hopes to own her own company. What happens when protections for her and other people with pre-existing conditions are lifted? Sophie can't pay out of pocket for exorbitantly priced medication. She'll be on her own when I retire next year, and financially precluded from coverage. Graham Cassidy does nothing to protect Sophie from being priced out of coverage.

This bill is so cruel every major medical organization is against it. And families like mine are in a state of panic. Please listen to the fifty percent of Americans with a pre-existing condition. There must be some protections written into graham/Cassidy. It's a matter of life and death.

Sheila Hamilton

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Deacon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Hearing Monday, Sept 25, 2017

I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson (GCHJ) Amendment to HR 1628. This proposed legislation, as previous iterations, is being put forth without relevant committee hearings held by Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP). One Finance Committee hearing, held several days before a vote, without a comprehensive CBO score, public hearings, and markups, precludes a fair evaluation of this bill's impact on health care coverage, costs, and protections for millions of people. I support a bipartisan Congressional effort to strengthen, not repeal, the existing Affordable Care Act.

Respectfully,
Deborah Deacon

[REDACTED] ay
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: susan finlayson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill!

Dear Committee,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, that would strip protections for me as a women (removing maternity and other essential care), and as someone with preexisting conditions (ultimately allowing insurance companies to deny or overcharge me). This is NOT the America I believe in and it is NOT a plan that will make America healthier or more prosperous. This bill directly targets me and my family.

We need *bipartisan* congressional effort to improve on the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you.

Susan Finlayson
Salt Lake City, Utah

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Zimmerman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy. Millions of lives are at stake

Although the ACA certainly has flaws, it can be fixed. Taking healthcare away from 32 million people and exposing many citizens with life-threatening illnesses to a lifetime of impoverishment is not who we should be as a country.

Although my husband and I receive insurance through our employers, Graham-Cassidy exposes even those of us who are relatively secure to frightening risk. My retired in-laws depend on us for their housing and right now, while everyone is healthy, we're doing pretty well. But they are getting older and we're one catastrophic illness away--as most people are--from life-changing debt. We are quite fortunate and we know that most others face dire and ruinous situations. We are a prosperous country, one that I used to believe cared for its citizens. Everyone should have access to healthcare. What point is our country's wealth if our nation is unwilling to meet the most basic of its citizens' needs?

A better system can be built, using the ACA as a foundation. We've come so far and although we still have a long way to go in making an affordable healthcare system that serves all Americans, the Graham-Cassidy bill is not the way. It will only bring harm.

Heather Zimmerman
San Jose, CA

only those who can afford it. Access to healthcare is a human right, and the United States should set an example in caring for its citizens.

I am asking my senators, Sen. Cruz and Sen. John Cornyn, and all senators to pledge to vote NO on this bill and to work to help the poorest Americans rather than the richest.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Save D [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] es

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Reeves [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Zzwebrespond99 (Cornyn); Juvera, Henry (Cornyn); Cruz, Ted (Cruz); Nelson, Beth (Cornyn); Heimbach, Joel (Cruz)
Subject: Conservatism Does Not Need to Mean Cruelty. Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.
Attachments: Senate Finance Committee Comments - Graham-Cassidy Bill - Vote NO.pdf

9/25/2017

Graham-Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee

Hearing

September 25, 2017

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill currently before the U.S. Senate. There is no reason why conservatism must equate to cruelty, and I am distressed that my senator, Sen. Ted Cruz, is seeking even larger cuts to coverage for millions of poor and disabled Americans. I am baffled as to why conservatives have such hate for the most vulnerable and least fortunate in our community.

The Affordable Care Act has provided desperately needed health insurance to millions of Americans, in particular those with preexisting conditions. Without the ACA's protections, people – like my sister who repeatedly denied coverage due to injuries suffered as a high school and college cheerleader (to say nothing of those born with chronic illnesses) – will once again find themselves gambling with their lives when struggling to pay outrageously high healthcare premiums or forgoing insurance when prices are outside of their reach. The entire medical community is united against this bill and the U.S. Senate should be as well.

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. Healthcare should not be a privilege for

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanne Schlesinger [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill comments

Please oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. It is inhumane and hurts so many people. Please please please put people first!

--Jeanne Schlesinger

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dorrie Bernstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote no!

The Graham-Cassidy bill will hurt so many Americans. I cannot imagine how the Senate, our Senate, could knowingly hurt so many people. People will die without healthcare and medication that they need to survive. Families will choose between food and healthcare. And, unlike every other developed nation in the world, we will not be providing healthcare for those who cannot afford it just so there can be a tax cut for the wealthiest Americans.

President Trump promised a health care plan that will 1) cost less and 2) include more people. The Graham-Cassidy plan does neither of those and it will take away healthcare from millions of Americans.

If the Senate thinks that it is a good plan that will benefit the most Americans, Congress should give up its healthcare plan and sign on to this one. Please only pass a healthcare plan that you will also use for your families. That way we know that we are not losing quality healthcare.

Dorrie Bernstein

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ivan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Ivan Keefer
[REDACTED]

us to stop being the laughing stock of the world and take care of our citizens. Remember, the finger of fate for an accident or devastating illness can point to any one of us tomorrow. How would you feel if it were your child? I am totally willing to be there for your child if you will be there for mine.

Sincerely,

Sally Caltrider

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sally caltrider [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to beg you to kill the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I have 2 children in their 20's. One gets insurance via the ACA because he is a musician who survives working on cruise ships and local gigs that don't provide health insurance. He is hard-working and healthy. He is the type of young person who needs to be REQUIRED to get health insurance because he feels young and invincible, and it is a big chunk of change for him. I'm his mom, a registered nurse who knows that devastating medical crises can and do happen to young people, and he needs coverage if God-forbid that happened. Thus he buys into the system for the greater good.

My daughter is a different story. At the age of 17, after being healthy all her life and an avid singer, dancer and honor student preparing for college auditions, she suddenly developed scary symptoms, and was diagnosed with Crohn's disease, an incurable chronic disease that can have devastating consequences. It was a family crisis, to say the least. But she persevered and despite her ill health, she finished high school and was accepted into 6 performing arts colleges. But we all worried that what she dreamed of doing and had prepared for all her life would suddenly become elusive because of her health.

She went into remission, and was able to complete college. Now she is entering the world of auditions and survival jobs. She is currently still on my health insurance, insurance I stay in an awful job to keep. But in a few years she'll be 26 and will need to get her own insurance. With a history of Crohn's and it's pattern of remissions and recurrences, she will always be saddled with a Pre-existing Condition. But she wants to stay healthy, work, and be a contributing member of society. She is in a field where the chances of getting insurance through your employer are almost zero. To top it off, her boyfriend has had insulin dependent diabetes since he was a young child, and also is a hard worker in the same field, trying to make ends meet and get ahead. These are the kinds of young people the ACA supports: hard-working, smart kids who have the misfortune of developing a chronic disease through no fault of their own, who want to work and contribute to society in a meaningful way. Yet without the ACA protections, they may not be able to afford health insurance, not be able to work, and, worse case scenario, could die!!

Trump and many of the Republicans keep saying, "We ran on this, we have to do it." But that is not what I hear from the majority of people I know. People want BETTER health care, not worse. People voted against Hillary for other reasons, not this. And Trump said his plan would be better and cheaper, which this is not. This hurts people and takes their health care away, and in the worse partisan way.

I encourage all of you to read T.R. Reid's book "The Healing of America" where he shows how other developed countries have managed to provide health care to all their citizens at lower cost and with better results than we have. The key is to get the profit out of health care. It is inhumane. And yeah, we all know the ACA isn't perfect. We need a public option like medicare to bring down the costs. FIX the ACA please. But don't throw it out and replace it with something where even fewer people will be covered and more people will die. Help

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ilana Novick [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Repeal, No Graham-Cassidy.

Having the ACA means my employers don't have to give me health insurance. It allows me to be an independent contractor. It's saving companies \$. Isn't that what GOP wants?

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanne McMahon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-cassidy bill

I am an advocate for families who have children with special health care needs. I strongly oppose the proposed legislation. I urge members of Congress to oppose this dangerous bill that will compromise health care and puts the health of millions of people in jeopardy. Especially the most vulnerable are people with disabilities, people with special health care needs and other vulnerable populations. Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brendan Riley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:56 AM
To: Wiles, Angela (Burr); gchcomments
Subject: Comments Re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal (September 25, 2017)
Attachments: Comments to Senate Finance Committee re Graham-Cassidy Proposal Hearingpdf
Importance: High


Dear Senate Finance Committee and Ranking Member Senator Burr,

Please find the attached comments from the North Carolina Justice Center, along with 18 undersigned North Carolina-based organizations, regarding the Senate Committee on Finance's hearing on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal scheduled for September 25, 2017 at 2:00 pm ET.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Best,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] r
[REDACTED] 68
[REDACTED] 11
[REDACTED] 4
[REDACTED] g

 north carolina
JUSTICE CENTER

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote Against

This is not good for our country or the people.

VOTE NO TO THE FOLLOWING, PLEASE.

- Establishes fixed state block grants that cap federal subsidies for coverage (for lower income people)
- Ends all federal subsidies by 2026
- Ends Medicaid expansion entirely in 2020 and Medicaid (for kids and pregnant women) in 2026
- States could give insurers unlimited ability to consider pre-existing conditions to set premiums
- Eliminates the federal insurance exchange
- Doesn't require states to use federal block grant money to help lower-income people buy coverage
- Allows states to waive coverage for preventive services (also will affect Medicare patients)
- Redistributes federal subsidies from Medicaid expansion (as NH is) to non-expansion states, with 20 states receiving 30-65% less federal money than the non-expansion states.
- It will reduce funding for health care coverage in NH by -\$410Million
- Ending Medicaid expansion means elimination of the SUD benefit
- Dispose of the requirements that insurance cover maternity care, prescription drugs or other essential health care benefits.

Move Well In A Deeper Sense,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Sports Training Conditions
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] therapy.net
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bboettcher <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

As the mother of a child recovering from cancer, I strongly urge you to vote NO on the Graham Cassidy bill. This bill would hurt -- not help -- hundreds of millions of Americans. And you would ultimately pay the price down the road at the polls. You are there to represent the people. Please heed John McCain's call to work together to help us. Thank you so much.



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gloria [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing 9-25-17

I live in Michigan and support Gov. Snyder's expansion of Medicaid in our state. Many families whom I know and work with (families with children with disabilities) rely on Medicaid. My husband and I rely on Medicare and my 40 year old son, single, never had adequate insurance as an adult until the ACA. I would very much like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not a repeal.

Sincerely,
Gloria A. Switzer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 9-25-17

Sent from XFINITY Connect Mobile App

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Jo Pritza [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Overall this bill attempts to drive legislation that is not in the best interest of the American public and access to quality healthcare. The recent last minute provisions to garner votes from certain senators underscores the motivation which is a Republican win regardless of consequence. Regular order should proceed in the Senate with a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Pritza

Oak Park, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Conlan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do NOT approve the Graham-Cassidy Bill!!!

Dear Senators,

Family is **top** priority in my life. When I learned that my son and his family planned to move to Georgia in late 2018 (to find more affordable housing than Maryland), I was devastated. Their son Victor is my only grandchild, and he lights up my life. I made the decision to retire after my 62nd birthday in May, 2018 so I could spend most of my free time with him before they left the area.

In addition, my mother is 84 and was recently diagnosed with early-onset dementia. By retiring before age 65, I had hoped to spend as much quality time with her as possible while she is still able to recognize me and know that I am her daughter. And as one of three daughters, it is important that I do my fair share of caring for her in her home (which is her wish).

I have a preexisting condition (hypothyroidism) that I acquired through no fault of my own when I was pregnant with my son. I need daily medication in order to **live**. Period. It's not an option. Under the ACA, I would have been eligible for health insurance through the healthcare exchange despite my preexisting condition. Although Senators Graham and Cassidy assure us that the state governments would protect their citizens with preexisting conditions, I do not share their faith in our elected officials. It is heartbreaking to have to choose between spending time with my only grandchild while he is still in the area and sharing in my mother's care in her home, or staying at my job until age 65 when I am eligible for Medicare (and I'm praying to God that it will still exist in its current affordable form!!!).

Though my situation will greatly impact my quality of life and that of my family, I realize that it is not as dire as many others. Yesterday I met a divorced woman who had retired in her mid-fifties. She worked hard all of her life and saved as much as she could by living beneath her means. Like most retirement-age people, she has a preexisting condition. She remarked sadly that it is difficult to enjoy her retirement when she is concerned that most of her hard-earned savings will probably need to cover the cost of her health insurance. And at this point in her life, she has little chance of getting a new job with employer-provided health care coverage. There are many others like her.

I have little doubt that states will try to cut costs by eliminating protections for preexisting conditions and/or raising premiums to the point where thousands will be priced out of the market. The ACA was not perfect, but it allowed a greater number of people to have health care coverage than will be eligible (or able to afford coverage) if this bill passes.

I beg you **please** DO NOT APPROVE the Graham-Cassidy Bill!!!

Stephanie Conlan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fred Burgerhoff <[REDACTED]@burgerhoff-rothman.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 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.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julissa Germosen [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please oppose Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello, I am the mother of a child with disabilities and she relies on Medicaid. Please oppose because it would be devastating for my daughter. Thank you, Senator.

Julissa S. Germosen
[redacted]
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Avila [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Andy Aujla
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Because of Medicare, my brother law who has a disability (he is blind and has other mental and physical conditions) has been having access to all the medical care that he needs in order to be an integral part of the community and our family. Without Medicare, our family will have to assume the medical cost of his care, which will put us as family in a very difficult situation. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Paula Avila-Guillen and Avninder Aujla.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Toby Israel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Without Obamacare, my daughter who had Cushing's Disease when she was 19 yrs. old would never had been treated. She could hardly walk but got the operation to remove a tumor near her brain and was cured. Please don't let another person be faced with a "do or die" medical decision.

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

Sincerely,

Toby Israel
[REDACTED]

--
4

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Van Dyke <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 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
....

We need a healthcare plan that works for everyone and not just the wealthy!

Please say no to the bill and keep Obamacare until it is replaced with a universal health care option

Anne Van Dyke

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phoenix Ray <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care

As a retired medical social worker, I believe strongly in providing Access to affordable care for all. Many times I saw patients who had worked hard, paid their taxes lose everything, including hope, after diagnosis of a life-threatening condition. When they lost their jobs and their private insurance and their life savings, they could no longer purchase critical medications either. Often they were readmitted over and over until, too late, qualifying for Medical Assistance. Thanks to Affordable Care Act, this changed for many. Please don't let this go backwards!

This year, when Congress started talking repeal of ACA, and the president started talking about letting ACA fail and letting the "insurance companies implode", it created such uncertainty and unpredictability for insurance companies that my insurance company sent me a letter stating they will no longer sell individual plans in the US.

It is noteworthy that a majority of the staff that were customer service for individual plans are being laid off. So much for a "jobs" president.

I do not believe ACA regulations stifled competition when United Health Group's annual report for 2016 makes a big case for the CEO's raise, in part, because the company's market share price increased 120% from 2014-2016 after dividends were paid. So much for stifling competition. (That is not a typo... it is 120% in market share price after dividends were paid.!)

Please, please, VOTE NO for the bill. Please do something to make a positive change, instead of all this gamesmanship at the expense of my health and potentially my nest egg. I worked hard to save for retirement.

ACA is not perfect, but it worked to get millions of people medical care they desperately needed. This latest bill looks like it will harm a lot of people.

Your action/ non action is harming me. Please, please help me and millions of people who's only choice is to buy an individual health plan.

Wendy Barry

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom King and Wendy Barry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments; Wendy Barry
Subject: Vote No on Graham Cassidy health care disaster

Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy bill. It is Trump care version 3.0, and a mess. If you vote this through, you will be ramming a bad healthcare bill down the throats of the American people you are supposed to serve.

It will take medical care away from millions of people, most of whom need it the most! Medical care is a basic human right.

Shore up the ACA by funding the Market Stabilization Fund and insurance pools. Give predictability and stability to the insurance companies.

Remember President Bush and the Republican Congress that shored up part of the Medicare program in 2003. More subsidy on a short term basis, brought more insurance providers to the market that eventually helped fix the problem.

I would like leadership to let the HELP committee do their work. I read that Senator Murray is willing to continue work on a bi-partisan healthcare bill. Please have the Congressional Budget Office draft a plan that will provide the best and most affordable medical care to all. Then, send that to the HELP Committee and then have hearings and follow a bi-partisan process. Please do your jobs!

The final bill should be based on what provides the best and most affordable medical care for every citizen when they need it.

I am one of people you serve. I just want to buy decent health insurance. I am one of the middle class individuals who do not qualify for subsidies. I pay \$974 / month for an Aetna Silver Plan with a \$6,500 deductible. It was one of three insurance companies... Aetna, Cigna offered plans off exchange and Ambetter offered all plans on the exchange.

When Congress did not fund the insurance pools initially, it hurt ACA, and several companies left the individual plan market Plain and simple, Republican party sabotaged the ACA from the beginning.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Stith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I like many Americans rely on affordable health care that covers predicting conditions without the hardship of an insurance company being able to increase my rates because I have a certain illness. Healthcare is something that all Americans need and to offer uneven policies from state to state is extremely unfair and unpopular. The polls show that an overwhelming majority of Americans oppose this healthcare plan, Trumpcare, in favor of an ACA fix. A bipartisan committee was working on this until they were distracted by this last ditch effort. I strongly believe the citizens will take out the results of this action, if passed, in the polls. Never has anything been as unpopular. Furthermore to vote on anything as critical as this without a CBO score is unconscionable.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Mitchell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

The Senate should not take healthcare away from millions of Americans. They should not eliminate the safety net of affordable coverage for pre-existing medical condition, and removal of the annual/lifetime caps on benefits. Healthcare is THR MOST IMPORTANT issue to every American who finds them self needing medical care. Stand up for all Americans. VOTE NO ON THE BILL.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allison Remy Hall [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Mankind was my business! (Graham-Cassidy)

To Whom It May Concern,

In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, the ghost of Scrooge's business partner Jacob Marley appears before him to implore him to live a more charitable, open-hearted life, lest he too be doomed to roam the earth eternally, laden in the chains of his own moral failings. Scrooge rebuffs him, saying:

'But you were only a good man of business, Jacob.'

Marley responds, "Business! Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence, were, all, my business...'

And so it should to be the business of Congress--Not to blindly follow the paths laid out by petty political vendettas, or to ignore the will of the people in the name of one ideology--But to attend to the common welfare of the nation. The American people want access to healthcare. This is evident not only in the deep unpopularity of Graham-Cassidy, but in the majority approval of Medicare For All.

Graham-Cassidy will do irreparable harm not only to the most vulnerable of Americans (the sick, the handicapped, children, mothers, the mentally ill), but will wreck havoc on the economies of the most populous and productive states in the Union, and ultimately on the nation at large.

It is my hope that the men and women who govern this nation will not allow themselves to fall prey to the base impulses of revenge, greed, cruelty--that they will not engage in an act of political theatre that will do so much harm to so many, just for the sake of the performance. Those who work to pass this travesty of a bill will bear the heavy chains of their moral failings with them. If they pass Graham-Cassidy, it will be a long and ponderous chain, weighted with the ruined lives of their constituents.

The responsibility of those in government is not to be good men and women of business, but to make the common welfare of the nation their business--To make the bettering of mankind their business. I entreat you: Protect this country. Please do not pass this bill. We can do better.

Sincerely,

Allison Remy Hall

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donalyn Sjostrand [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH Comment

Dear Finance Committee Members,

We serve an isolated, rural population in far northern California where there is a huge shortage of doctors and other medical service providers. As it is now, for many health care services, people often must travel 2 - 6 hours to reach the care they need, and for those on Medicaid, it may require traveling that distance to get nearly any health care services. We in the north coast desperately need to keep what little health care services we have access to through Medicaid. Further cuts truly will mean that due to lack of available services, people will have to go into institutions to get the care they need.

- People with disabilities rely on Medicaid, and the per capita caps and cuts included in Graham-Cassidy will jeopardize their health, threaten their independence, and put lives at risk.
- The Medicaid cuts in Graham-Cassidy will limit access to home and community-based services, which will result in more disabled people and older adults being forced into costly institutions.
- Allowing states to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions will make coverage unaffordable for many - and many of those are people with disabilities.

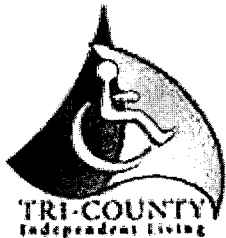
Please oppose Graham-Cassidy and any other bill that cuts, caps, or imposes block grants or per capita caps on Medicaid.

Donalyn Sjostrand

[REDACTED]

Like us on Facebook!

[REDACTED]



Enhancing Disability Independence

TCIL is a community-based, non-residential, non-profit, multicultural organization providing services for persons of all ages with all types of disabilities and advocating for fully inclusive communities that honor all members equally.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chrystal Doyle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA

I am a cardiology and school nurse and see first hand improvements in the delivery of health care under the ACA. We need bipartisan improvements to the ACA and a focus on expanding high quality, comprehensive coverage to more Americans. The Graham Cassidy proposal does not meet the needs of Americans and will not improve the health care system. You can do better.

Thank you,
Chrystal Doyle
Glen Allen, VA

--

Thank you,

Chrystal Doyle

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Melahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid

Hello, this is Sharon Melahn and I have two children with disabilities. I reside in Succasunna NJ. I am asking to oppose the Graham Cassidy bill that proposes devastating cuts to Medicaid and removes prpt cations for people with pre-existing conditions.

Thank you for your help,
Sharon

--
Sharon Melahn
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hannah Jennings [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I am terrified that my daughter will lose health insurance should the Graham-Cassidy bill be passed.

The ACA saved her life: please fix it with a thoughtful, debated, bipartisan solution instead of gambling with the reckless bill being voted on this week.

Sincerely,

Hannah Jennings

Hannah Jennings Design

HannahJennings.com

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

There are a thousand thousand reasons to live this life, every one of them sufficient.

— Marilynne Robinson, in *Gilead*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Hechenberger [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is bad for people

The Graham-Cassidy Act is not good for the American people. This act does not provide coverage for many groups, including the elderly, disabled, low income, and those with preexisting conditions.

The Republicans provide lip service to providing the states and citizens "choice", but if the cost is excessive then the choice is made for all individuals by their ability to pay.

I am now on Medicare with secondary coverage provided through State of Illinois employee insurance. I recently had cataract surgery which cost me, out of pocket, \$2,500. The second eye will be scheduled soon. This cost is now on a credit card in order to pay it off over time. I feel this \$5,000 cost is very high for a retired middle class couple who have good insurance. The limitations of the Medicare and insurance coverage obviously place a great financial burden on the individual.

Cataract surgery is the most common surgery in the country. The cost of this surgery in the Midwest is lower than other regions. How many Medicare recipients do not have this sight restoring surgery because of the high cost to them? How many more will not have it if the medical coverage is further limited and increases the personal costs even more?

The Republicans are again in a rush to push this bill through before it can be read and understood by the senate, and before it can be reviewed for its financial impact on citizens.

Republicans want States to be the handler of this program which means insurance can vary from state to state. Will citizens become nomads following the trail of good coverage and fleeing states with limited to no coverage?

Why would the Republicans be in such a hurry unless they were not wanting responsible people to see through their smoke and mirrors carnival show!

Please review and reject this "health care" bill as bad for American citizens.

Sincerely,

Carol Sikora Hechenberger
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Powell <li [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].net>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham Cassidy bill

I am a resident of Washington State. I am opposed to the Graham Cassidy bill because it would cut Medicaid which provides essential health care for millions of children with special needs and complex health conditions.

We must stop this bill and find health care solutions to protect our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you.

Linda Powell

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Ruder [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Up until the enactment of the ACA, I had NO decent or consistent insurance. Most of my employers either offered none or watered- down expensive insurance that took a chunk of my paycheck but paid for little more than preventive health care. Ironically the very same amount that was deducted for the insurance each month put me over the limit to get ANY help at all with anything save LIHEAP. I have been a single working mother since 1999. It became clear to me that the "system" does little or nothing for those of us who are working and paying our own way. Even the agencies are set up to benefit the non-working. I had little faith that anyone in government cared about the working poor that were literally falling through the cracks. Lost faith in that a long time ago.

Then came the ACA. PA chose to take the Medicaid expansion. I qualified. I was able to--for the first time in years. .to get the care I needed.....all of it. Eyes, teeth, and body. My lenses were finally replaced in my glasses, I am going to the dentist again.....and have started getting regular care for existing conditions. I have GERD and a long overdue endoscopy revealed Barrett's esophagus (in some instances this can lead to cancer and MUST be monitored). I was able to get xrays and an MRI that revealed the source of pain that plagued me for 1.5 years....three bulging discs in my spine, one with an annular tear. I have been able to get epidurals that made it possible to stand and walk comfortably again. I hope that I am able to go back to the field I was working in before all of the spine issues surfaced. The ACA has made my life better.

I am aware that for many, it hasn't worked ideally. I fully support amending what isn't working. I am even willing to see amendments made to Medicaid.

Knowing so many who depend on Medicaid both as primary insurance and supplementary to Medicaid...I cannot support anything that takes away from care and returns us to the hell so many of us have endured.

Please do what is right for the people....no more breaks for the wealthy and no more perks for insurance companies!

I have been a registered Republican since I could vote. Of late, I am ashamed of the polarization and general uncaring spirit many in office display. I am on the verge of changing my affiliation, albeit grudgingly, to the Democratic party. I am far from left wing, but they appear to be more interested in human beings than the Republican party. Stop playing party politics and do what is MORALLY right for the people.....that is, work together with Democrats and fix what is wrong, keep what is good about the ACA....or work with Bernie Sanders' ideas. Health care is a right, not a privilege. We all benefit from a healthy populace! Thank you

Kathy Ruder, Dover PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sylvia Williams <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

To Whom It May Concern,

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

My son was hit by a drunk-stoned driver two weeks after graduating from college. This was no fault of his own. Without accessible health care he would have died within an hour. He has brain injuries and our family is dependent upon accessible health care for him, and of course, for our whole family.

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

Sincerely,

Sylvia Mannen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ree <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments; Laird, Kathleen (Baldwin); Riley, Sean (Ron Johnson)
Subject: Graham/Cassidy ACA Repeal Bill

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of Hearing: September 25, 2017

Good morning,

I am writing in regards to the Graham-Cassidy ACA Repeal bill. I am a registered voter in the state of Wisconsin. I have serious doubts about this bill and do not feel it is in the best interest of the people of this nation to repeal the ACA and replace it with this monstrosity.

This bill has the potential to remove healthcare coverage for an estimated 32 million people and to end Medicaid expansion affecting 11 million low-income adults. It will also end protections on pre-existing conditions, lifetime caps and essential benefits. It will not provide funding for recessions, natural disasters, public health emergencies or price spikes and could cause premiums to rise by upwards of 20% in the next year alone. It will also target women's healthcare and family planning, thereby removing women's ability to determine if, and when, they become mothers, restrict women's life choices on their own healthcare, and reduce funding for women's healthcare issues. (Centers for Budget and Policy, CBO prior estimates).

I truly support the ACA/health insurance program. Many of us are not able to secure insurance due to pre-existing conditions or lack of coverage through employers. I am asking that you support this beneficial program that the majority of Americans want, and need. We should not have to file bankruptcy, lose our homes and livelihoods over medical issues. This is morally wrong. We are supposed to be the shining beacon for the free world, yet we are the least free in the area of healthcare.

I have personally benefited from the ACA. I became sick in spring 2016 and ultimately had to leave my job as I couldn't function on a daily basis. When I left my position, my husband had a good job with insurance, and I was able to start seeking out care and providers to figure out what was wrong. However, he was laid off a few months later and we were without insurance. For a while we were able to get help from the state, a few months anyway. Once my husband was able to at least obtain unemployment, we made too much for state healthcare and were referred to the exchange. I was terrified after hearing all the "horror stories". But our experience was nothing like the stories spread online. We had people willing and able to help us with the process; we obtained a mid-level plan that

would cover my medications and many of the providers I was seeing; and finally, we could afford the monthly amount without going broke.

Six months after I first got sick, no one knew what was wrong and today, they still don't. The best answer I can get, is something is wrong with my bone marrow and how it is producing my red blood cells. My platelet levels begin to rise and my blood starts to clot up; I have minor spots of damage in my brain due to the small vessel disease (smallest veins were killed off by blood too thick to move) and my blood isn't picking up and carrying iron and oxygen correctly.

But I am receiving treatment and able to work at least part-time. Without the ACA, I wouldn't have insurance and be able to work even the 25/hours a week I now manage. My quality of life will quickly go downhill with the expensive medications I take on a daily basis just to function. I don't want to be a burden on anyone, I want to work as much as I can. I have an education- an MBA with honors, I'm an ex-Federal employee and I never thought my life would end up here, but it did. I fight every day to be the best I can be, don't take that from me.

Healthcare is not a game to be played by political parties, it is serious, even life or death, for some of us. What if it was your mother/father, daughter/son, spouse or any other family member – would you rather see them healthy or sick and possibly dying because of this bill going into effect. I am asking that you do what is right, allow us to keep our healthcare coverage, and improve the ACA rather than dismantling it. Please do not allow Graham-Cassidy to pass. You will be handing me, and many other like me, a death sentence.

Please, feel free to contact me with any questions you may have on my life and health coverage.

Sincerely,

Zena M. Blom

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen A Cerulo [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not support Graham-Cassidy

Please, please do not support this bill.

My family was wiped out ... twice ... by pre Obama care health insurance operations. The lack of reasonable care for people with preexisting conditions and the application of lifetime caps means that a family's savings--even healthy amounts of savings-- can be spent in a matter of months. Please ... please.. work in a bipartisan fashion to craft changes to the current bill as opposed to sacrificing all but the most wealthy to the very heartless plan represented by Graham-Cassidy.

Karen A. Cerulo
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bob Carney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

As a person who has voted in every election for the past two decades, I want you to know that I'm strongly opposed to this "repeal." The ACA is far from perfect, but Graham-Cassidy is a disaster, especially for older Americans such as myself.

Take the time to work on a bipartisan basis to create a health care system that works for all Americans, not simply well-to-do ones. A great nation, especially at a time of such historic change in technology, economy and employment, provides for its citizens.

Please do the right thing and reject this rash act.

Bob Carney

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Southerland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am writing to express my objection to the proposed Graham Cassidy legislation, which does not support the values on which this country was established. It will cause millions of people to lose insurance, and likely millions of others to effectively lose healthcare because it will become unaffordable for all but the most wealthy. I, and many of my family members, suffer from preexisting conditions. My parents are in their 80s and depend on Medicare. One sister is a Stage IV kidney cancer survivor. My other sister is a diabetic. Congress is supposed to protect its people, and this bill not only does not protect us, it actively does harm.

Carolyn Southerland

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Elgear <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Healthcare Repeal

I cannot express forcefully enough how opposed I am to the most recent iteration of this inhumane healthcare reform that will benefit only the healthy and wealthy. Every major medical industry, insurance industry, consumer industry all have come out against it. That speaks volumes. I know of no one who doesn't have or doesn't know someone with a pre-existing medical condition. Under this bill there would be no protection for us to receive the affordable treatment that keeps us alive. In short, this bill will kill us.

Sandra Elgear
[REDACTED] ct
[REDACTED]
New York
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] it not
W [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maria Friedrich [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: REQUEST FOR BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL EFFORT TO IMPROVE ACA-- NOT REPEAL IT.

Senators:

I am a woman in my 60's with TWO daughters aged 29 and 30 respectively. We ALL rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I represent over 50 family members who ALL have pre-existing medical conditions and/ or have disabilities (I have two cousins who are mentally compromised ("retarded" in the old vernacular) and an aging parent.

I am writing to see BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL EFFORTS to IMPROVE ACA, not repeal it.

Please hear this voice and the voices of many others.

Most sincerely,

Maria Friedrich

Brooklyn, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bryony Romer <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham Cassidy

I am a small business owner. My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare made possible by the Affordable Care Act. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family is healthy, in part thanks to our access to healthcare, but we know that that can change in an instant -- with one freak accident, one bad infection, one cancer diagnosis. None of us are immune, and all of us will become sick one day. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Ultimately, we need to expand popular public programs like Medicaid and Medicare to provide affordable healthcare for all.

Sincerely,
Bryony Romer
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Keelie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Keelie Fallon
[REDACTED]

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Diehl <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

I am strong against the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Please do not take health care from so many hard-working Americans.

Thank you,

Nancy Diehl
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jen Cardenas [REDACTED] n>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: kamala.harris@harris.senate.gov; Senator Dianne Feinstein; senator@harris.senate.gov
Subject: Graham Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

As the new owner of our own small business, my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare provided by the Affordable Care Act. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions and the Graham Cassidy bill would enable insurance companies to effectively price me out of the insurance market. This bill does nothing to ensure that I can afford insurance and, in fact, it's passage would mean that I couldn't afford insurance in the future. Additionally, my mother-in-law is covered by insurance for the first time in her late adult life due to the Medicaid expansion, which this bill would phase out. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. It is the government's responsibility to ensure high quality affordable care is available to citizens as a right, not a privilege.

Sincerely,

Jen Cardenas
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Laskowski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

To:

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

GRAHAM/CASSIDY BILL

September 25, 2017

From:

Kathleen Laskowski

[REDACTED] e

[REDACTED]

Senators on the Finance Committee:

I am writing to express my opposition to the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. It is clear that the Graham/Cassidy Bill is worse than any other put before the Senate. This is *not* a health care bill. If it were, much more thought and time would have been given, and more people would get coverage than in the current system.

This bill is bad for America, as evidenced by the response of every major Insurance association, every physician association, every hospital association and groups supporting individual diseases who have come out resoundingly against this bill, as well as so many citizens of this country who need and deserve affordable healthcare. My adult daughter is a type one diabetic and needs her insurance to cover her pre-existing condition. The Affordable Care Act has been invaluable for her, and so many others who have many different pre-existing conditions. We all need support and care when we are vulnerable, not the promise of money to states that the Graham/Cassidy bill provides instead of caring for Americans in need.

You must understand that this bill will not save money, instead it will transfer the burden onto healthcare providers, who then transfer the burden onto commercial insurance policies. Effectively this will price even more people out of the ability to have healthcare insurance.

The Graham/Cassidy bill is immoral, and will disproportionately hurt poor and sick people in the guise of states' rights. Block grants may be attractive to state governments who can use the money however they wish,

but there no guarantee to citizens that they will be included in the care, or especially, that they will not be priced out of care. Rushing this bill through without CBO scoring is obviously a sneaky move to pass it before anyone knows the real effects on regular Americans. I cannot believe that you do not understand that your responsibility to speak up for your constituents is more important than blindly following poor leadership to fulfill a poorly thought out promise. I hope you will hold out for regular order and real bi-partisan work to fix the Affordable Care Act and really make better healthcare for all. Please consider this carefully. This is *not* politics; it is our lives. Make no mistake, it will be your fault when millions of Americans cannot access affordable health care.

There is no need to beat the clock to pass something by a simple majority. The Affordable Care Act needs improvement. You must work across the aisle to bring the best coverage and truly provide better quality healthcare and access to it for all Americans.

Respectfully,

Kathleen Laskowski

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roger Ballou [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: Collins@senate.gov
Cc: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote "No" -- Graham/Cassidy

September 25, 2017

Dear Senator Collins:

I write to request that you vote against Graham/Cassidy.

Every indication to date has been that you are going to stay strong and not be courted into voting for Graham/Cassidy. I ask that you not change your mind.

3 The frantic effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act looks extremely political and seems to ignore the problems it will create.

There are so many good people who will be "left hanging" or "out in the cold" if you allow Graham/Cassidy to pass. It would reflect uncaring and short-sighted thinking on your colleagues' and your part.

You're doing really good work as one of our leaders from Maine. Please don't disappoint.

Thank you.

Roger Ballou
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Encarni Gallardo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Position Statement

To whom it may concern,

As the director of a nonprofit agency that serves those at risk and in need, I don't have another choice but to oppose this new legislation that will affect most of those we serve. I believe our representatives can come together and find a solution to the health care problem that keeps in mind and support those that need it most including young children, at risk families and individuals with special needs.

I am also am very concern about the effect Medicaid cuts will have in the future of vulnerable children, including those in foster care or those with special needs (I have a grandchild with special needs) Per capita caps and block grants would dramatically reduce funding for Medicaid. These cuts would lead states to reduce costs, resulting in reduced access to care and inadequate services for children with special needs and in foster care.

Children unable to receive treatment for their chronic behavioral and physical health conditions would be difficult to place in foster and kinship caregiver homes, leading to increased youth homelessness. Medicaid coverage serves as an incentive and assurance for families adopting a child with special needs from foster care. Families would be less likely to consider these adoptions without the assurance of Medicaid to meet their children's complex health needs.

I appreciate this opportunity to speak my voice.

Please, don't forget to visit Care About Childcare website www.careaboutchildcare.utah.gov

ENCARNI GALLARDO, MBA, CPM
Executive Director Children's Service Society

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 53
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Families, Strong Communities Division

Find us online:



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scala, Arlene [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care bill

Greetings!

I am a professor at William Paterson University, and I am asking you to vote down the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. Senators need to work across the aisle to come up with a plan that improves on Obamacare, not one that rescinds it. I hope to eventually see universal healthcare and a single-payer system.

I vote, and as a department chair and chair of our Faculty Senate I urge everyone to vote!

Best wishes,

Dr. Arlene Holpp Scala

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JNo Glick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Representing Body for Finance for the Senate,

What is good for the part is good for the whole?

In Indiana, we receive fewer tax dollars back from Washington than we contribute. I don't mind that generally, except that in this case, they are being used to go to individual other states with the sole intention to sweeten the pot, to swing votes, to implement a travesty of a bill that will hurt many Americans who can be hurt no more. The Republican members of the Senate who came up with this legislature didn't do this because they feel the bill is an excellent alternative to the ACA (some, when questioned, don't even know the extent of what the bill will do if enacted), they do this because the Koch Brothers have told them that unless the ACA is repealed, they are not donating to any Republican campaigns. So essentially, the Senate is using our money to shore up their reelection coffers.

As a Hoosier, I feel used.

As an American watching this stuff, I feel dirty and ashamed for our country. The people who are supposed to be serving those of us who are less fortunate are now serving only their best interests.

Are you going to allow this?

Best,

Jennifer Glick

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Goshen, IN 46526

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Martha Chambers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy-Heller -Johnson Bill

Dear Joint Finance Committee Members,

Regarding the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017, I say NO to the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

My name is Martha Chambers, 54 years old, paralyzed from my neck down from a horse back riding accident 22 years ago and unable to use my arms and legs; as well as, suffer from nerve pain throughout my entire body. I rely on Medicaid through the IRIS Program for nearly 24/7 care, transportation and payment for essential products for my life that Medicaid will not provide. I am extremely concerned about the possibility of the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal passing..

It is unfortunate that the community has not had the ability to voice their views at a public hearing until this late date and that legislators are trying to push this bill through so quickly. By doing so if it gets passed, millions of individuals with disabilities, children and frail elders will not have the support that they need to live. The bill will cap and redistribute federal funds disproportionately in states and again make it very difficult for those who have the least to live just a simple life. As an active, independent member of the community, working and participating on committees for others with disabilities, who uses Medicaid long-term supports to help me stay in my home and avoid a costly (and confining!) nursing home stay, makes me concerned that I could end up there. This is not an option for me or for anyone who may be in the same situation. Can you assure me that my life will remain the same? If not, please do not pass the Graham - Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Bill.

Thank you for your time,
Martha Chambers

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

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan Kuenz <jkuenz@me.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health Bill

Dear Finance Committee,

After being in health care for 40 years as a nurse the well being of all of our citizens are primary to me. This bill does not in any way address insuring that the individuals covered presently will have adequate health coverage. The health of our population should be about quality and not money. Health and wellness are essential to all voters.

In addition the ACA improves all types of health coverage repealing would cause:

Increase rate of premiums to pre-ACA rates or higher- once subsidies eliminated 50% higher the first year (Congressional Budget Office)

Increase the number of individuals that would seek care in the ER driving costs up

Change the focus from prevention to treatment of disease

Increase the number of tests by returning to billing for specific tests versus outcome of patients

Coverage again be denied based on high risk or pre-existing conditions

End annual and lifetime limits

End the 80/20 rule that provides for every dollar spent on a health premium 80 cents is spent on health care and 20 cents on administrative costs

Services that have expanded through Medicaid for children, people with disabilities, seniors would be at risk and individuals with a mental health or substance abuse disorder

In summary the Graham -Cassidy would be a disaster for health care!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: April Hopkins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability is that my husband and I make a decent salary and are worried about providing for my family if the cost of healthcare goes up. We already pay more than our mortgage payment for healthcare, and we are healthy people, with no serious illnesses or disabilities. My sister-in-law has a special needs child that relies on medicaid to provide the necessary treatments for my niece. My mother suffers from MS and also relies on affordable health insurance to get the care that she needs to manage her pain. We are all HARDWORKING, TAX-PAYING people. We deserve the right to affordable healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
April Hopkins

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--

April Hopkins
design manager

art | design | illustration
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: June Bryant <[REDACTED]@gov.net>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassady bill

This bill is a DISASTER, a DISGRACE, a DISGUSTING act of partisan politics that has NO REDEEMABLE action in any valid attempt to offer the American People decent health care. No wonder it is propose by two scofflaws who aren't facing the voters again!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Benevolent Being [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

This latest attempt to strip heal care from millions of Americans is an even greater travesty than the ones before.

How do these ridiculous bills even get out of committee?

EVERY SINGLE Healthcare association in the country, including Medicaid directors in all 50 states, have publicly stated their opposition to this bill. Millions of voters & taxpayers have made repeated calls to their members of Congress to voice their opposition to these 'repeal & replace' pieces of garbage.

Here's an idea, why don't you kill this monstrosity of meanness and get to work with a bipartisan committee to FIX the problems in the ACA instead of playing politics with people's lives every other month?

The American people have said loud & clear that they want the ACA fixed, not demolished. Do your flippin' jobs and work on real solutions.

Jennifer Webster
[REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Clark <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill

If The Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill is so good, will each one of the members pledge to switch his/her and their familie's plan to it?
Richard Clark
Shoreline, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Byron <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Gentleman (I do wish I could address this as ladies and gentlemen!):

I am of the age when the layoffs begin. At my age, employers prefer people like me to train our younger and much cheaper replacements. That's why, for the second time in 4 years, my family relies on the quality, affordable healthcare that is available through the ACA. Because the Graham-Cassidy bill will guarantee the end of affordable healthcare AND denial of care for my existing conditions, I urge you to work toward a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jane Byron
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dania Ermentrout <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on GCH

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

My family is writing you to speak out against the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill.

Medicaid and the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver, Community Alternatives Program for Children (CAP/C), have been a godsend for our family. We spent over 3 years trying to “make things work,” but having a terminally ill, medically fragile child was nothing short of financially devastating. *And it doesn't matter who you are.* My husband and I were two working professionals with multiple graduate degrees, private insurance, and good salaries. Yet, in her few years of life, our daughter's hospital bills, doctor's bills, therapies, durable medical equipment, prescription medication, medical food, and supplies (e.g., feeding bags, syringes, suction kits, port-a-cath flush kits, diapers, incontinence liners, g-tube replacement kits) totaled *hundreds of thousands of dollars.*

To care for Moira and take her to her many appointments and therapies, I had to leave my job. For over three years, my husband and I slept with her every single night because she could never be left alone due to concern for aspiration, seizures, and asphyxia. On multiple payment plans, heavily in debt, extremely sleep-deprived from feeding and caring for our child through the night, we applied for CAP-C for Moira. We were accepted. Now, with Medicaid as a secondary payer, we have begun to climb slowly out of debt. With respite and nursing aide care, I have been able to return to the work force. With vehicle and home modifications, we have been able to meet Moira's substantial needs at home.

The Graham-Cassidy bill's proposed Medicaid changes, such as limiting each family to a strict budget or “per capita cap,” would require substantial state support and will undoubtedly be too great a burden for North Carolina to bear. The families with multi-disabled children who cannot walk or talk and require total, complex care (like ours) will suffer the most. To enable families to work, they need skilled care for their children. To enable disabled children to survive and thrive in the community, they need access to healthcare, home and vehicle modifications, adaptive equipment, and caregiver training. An appropriate cap is impossible to determine. One child might need life-saving surgeries or a lengthy stay in the PICU. Another child might need 24-hour nursing care at home.

There is one thing I can say for sure: This program--WHICH IS AN OPTIONAL WAIVER AND NOT AN ENTITLEMENT (and therefore at SERIOUS RISK OF BEING CUT)--is a critical support for families providing care for seriously ill and disabled children. Without the supports provided by the Medicaid HBCS Waiver, CAP-C, families would fall apart, and the burden would be left to the State in more ways than one. Sick kids are not cheap, but supporting families to keep them at home is the cheapest option and the right thing to do.

We want to care for our children and contribute to our communities. Please help us to continue to do just that by supporting Medicaid at home and in the schools and scrapping this disastrous bill.

Sincerely,
Dania Ermentrout and Daniel Smith
Parents of Moira Ermentrout, Age 5, with terminal pontocerebellar hypoplasia type 2a

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deepika Slawek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To whom it May Concern:

As a physician, public health advocate, and a concerned citizen, I am writing in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I have seen on many occasions the consequences of inadequate health insurance coverage for our citizens. I have rarely seen a situation in which my patients would benefit from less coverage, and know first hand the destruction incomplete coverage can cause to my patient's lives. I hope that you recognize the grave responsibility you hold with this vote. Graham-Cassidy is an irresponsible piece of legislation, and will do serious damage to our country's health both for its individual citizens and as a whole for our economy. We must care for our citizens, and Graham-Cassidy does the opposite of that.

Thank you for your time,

Deepika Slawek, [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theo Longfellow <theos@longfellow.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: keep Obamacare!!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a freelancer and have no other way of getting healthcare. This is about life and death and sickness. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE and EXPAND the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Alyson Shotz, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mindy Hedges [redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

I have a story to tell you about why I am in great support of the Affordable Health Care Plan and very much not in support of the Graham-Cassidy bill that is now pending in the Senate. The ACA saved my life.

I am a Type 1 diabetic and have had diabetes since the age of 5, for 56 years.

When I first opened my company, and started to hire employees, I wanted to get them health insurance. I started to look for coverage when our business was growing, and we had employees that needed healthcare from our company (their spouses' companies didn't provide this, or they were single). When I started to search for it, every company I called would not even quote because I, as the owner, had a pre-existing illness. I offered my staff the opportunity to get health insurance on their own, and my company would pay for ½ of the premium.

After several years of this type of benefit, we were getting bigger, and I tried again to get insurance. We were again turned down, with the same answer. I then took myself out of the coverage pool, and got an insurance company to quote. When they did, however, they made a mistake, and had me in the quote. Thankfully, Ohio's law at that time stated that if a company quoted on an insurance coverage policy, they were bound by that quote and could not back out, although they tried. Every year I was worried that this insurance would drop my company because of my condition, so it held us bound to the first and only company that made a mistake and had to cover us, no matter how they raised their premiums. This example show clearly how the insurance companies will do anything they can to not cover those with pre-existing conditions.

I had to close my business in 2009 because of the horrible recession. My husband also worked for me in my company, so we were both unemployed and without insurance. This was pre-Obama care, and I was getting quite a few phone calls about insurance coverage (the insurance brokers stalk the unemployment lists online). All I had to say, when they first called and identified themselves, was that I was a Type 1 diabetic. Most of them hung up without another word.

Only one told me that if they did quote, it would be somewhere between \$2,000 - \$5,000 premium per month, but they wouldn't quote on it, regardless. Both of us were on unemployment so these costs were more than we had every month to spend on our mortgage and food. In addition, my

pharmaceuticals, including insulin and insulin pump supplies, cost around \$700 per month. Our only decision was to not have insurance.

Lots of tears and lots of thinking only gave us one option -- no insurance until the Affordable Care Act was passed! I even had some friends and neighbors who were supplying me with some pump supplies so we didn't have to buy them. We barely survived.

I signed on right and because we got a tax abatement our premium was affordable.

I am currently paying \$445.28 for the same plan and same tax credit they had given me before. **That is only a 6% increase from 2016!** The issue is about insurance companies dropping the ACA primarily because they cannot depend on the government to support this plan any longer!

As one of the richest countries in the world, you must have a healthcare plan that **HELPS ALL AMERICANS, NO MATTER THEIR INCOME OR HEALTH!**

The Graham-Cassidy bill does not ensure those with pre-existing conditions will get covered. Once each state is making their own insurance plan (which is a difficult enough task for our federal government and will be even more difficult for all States. This plan puts undue pressure on the states to financially subsidize their population, with no fallback. And yes, the federal government will be giving grants (which **SHOULD BE FIGURED BY POPULATION DENSITY, AND NOT DETERMINED BY PARTY OR POLITICAL VIEWS OF THE STATE/GOVERNOR**), which will help, but the insurance companies will be the final decision maker, as they can then select whether they will play ball according to these guidelines, or request more money. As we well know, the insurance companies give large amounts of money to politicians, so it behoves our federal government to allow these insurance companies to back out of some coverage. Pre-existing conditions will be one of the first requests. In addition, this plan does not mandate coverage for all, which helped to offset the higher costs for the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions.

Please, do not let us go uninsured, or without coverage that helps us buy pharmaceuticals and durable medical equipment like the insulin pump and pump supplies. These are necessities that keep us alive. There are no alternatives. Our life is in your hands.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me any time, or I would be happy to come to Washington and speak on this to answer any questions you may have.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Hess [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I strongly oppose Graham-Cassidy
Attachments: Senate finance committee Graham Cassidy Opposition.docx

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Senate Finance Committee

Date: Monday, September 25, 2017

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Testimony for Inclusion in the Public Record

Sarah Hess
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

- Eliminate the financial assistance that helps low- and moderate-income families purchase health care coverage;
- End expanded Medicaid coverage that helps millions of low-income adults;
- Gut Medicaid through deep, permanent cuts that would grow over time and threaten care for millions of low-income seniors, children, and people living with disabilities and shift massive costs and risks to states;

- Jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths
- Undermine essential protections for people with pre-existing conditions;
- Resurrect - *and worsen* - the devastating cuts in coverage and benefits that the American public and the majority of Congress have already rejected.

I provide civil legal aid to families whose children have chronic illness, and I know the devastation my clients will face under this scheme. It is not an exaggeration to say that my clients will be sicker, and many will die with these changes to their access to healthcare.

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 result in at least one millions Illinoisans losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget. Below we've laid out in more detail our concerns with this proposal and the devastating impact it will have on consumers.

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

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

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

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

restrict eligibility for enrollment - all of which could restrict access to important health care services for Medicaid enrollees.

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

Pushes massive new costs onto states.

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

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

Because federal dollars for Medicaid account for about 20% of state budgets, FitchRatings “believes substantial Medicaid cuts would require states to make material budget adjustments over the next decade and beyond.”^[1] And by pulling coverage from so many, this proposal would drive up uncompensated care costs on local communities, state budgets, safety net providers, and hospitals.

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

By repealing the individual mandate and eliminating advanced premium tax credits and cost sharing reductions, this proposal would drive up premiums and cause insurers to exit the ACA's marketplaces. As we know from previous CBO projections, repealing the individual mandate alone would increase the number of uninsured individuals by 15 million and cause premiums to increase by 20 percent. Furthermore, by replacing the financing of the ACA's financial assistance with a block grant without any guarantee that states would direct their temporary block grant funds toward financial assistance, this proposal puts the 350,000 Illinoisans who currently rely on financial assistance at risk for sharply higher out-of-pocket costs and coverage loss.

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

Eliminates critical consumer protections.

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

Lacks transparency and opportunity for meaningful input.

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC: for the record

My name is Judith Ehrlich. I, along with 600,000 other Americans, was born with an inherited kidney disease known as Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD). There is no cure and no treatment right now, other than transplant or dialysis. PKD affected my mom, one sister and my brother as well. Each of us has been able to live our fullest life possible thanks to skilled medical and surgical teams who have collectively already led us through medication regimes, lifestyle changes, 5 kidney transplants and years of dialysis. Without our health insurance and Medicare, we would not have an ongoing story. We didn't choose to have this pre-existing condition and I believe that in this country, EVERYONE has the right to get the care they need and deserve.

I was just approved by my team for my kidney transplant and I've been feeling hopeful- until I think about what might happen if GC becomes the law of the land. Please, please do not put my care in jeopardy for the sake of political promises. My life literally depends on Congress doing the right thing. Thank you.

Judith Ehrlich
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Bosco Baum [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Dear Committee,

Do not repeal and replace the ACA unless it's with a single payer system. The Graham Cassidy Billie NOT in the best interests of this country and its people. Doctors and nurses and other health professionals oppose it--they know more about what we need than insurance companies and a bunch of older white men (no offense) who have tidy insurance policies, good salaries, pensions and more. This country is too rich to let its population get sicker and poorer, which WILL HAPPEN under this insensitive bill. States rights do not trump the rights of all Americans for equal access. Do what's right: stand up for all Americans, not just the interests of your cronies, big Pharma, HMOs and lobbyists. Thank you for reading.

With respect,
Carol Bosco Baumann
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nosonchuk, Jane <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: lcantrell@thearcofva.org
Subject: Loss of Medicaid catastrophe

Hello,

Herein is just my perspective on the devastation that would be our fate if Medicaid goes away. Even if Medicaid would arise as a new entity, too much damage would occur during any break in coverage for its participants. Think of it like breathing. There is a short period to hold your breath and the brain is damaged or dies. It's not a reversible situation once the damage is done.

I am a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner working at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters in Norfolk, Virginia for nearly 30 years. Our hospital will probably have to close without Medicaid which makes up approximately 55% of our billing income. Then, all the young people who rely on Medicaid insurance will not only have no insurance, they will have no pediatric facility for care. This would be a terrible thing. Children are not small adults and have special needs that are met by medical practitioners trained for that purpose.

The disabled population would feel the immediate hit. In a domino fashion, all the community resources that rely on Medicaid to support medical equipment, staffing, nursing services, their support staff, administration, and entire medical businesses would fall.

In my second job, I am the mother of two disabled children. Both are on Medicaid Waivers. One receives private duty nursing so I can continue working and survive. This child cannot be left alone and has multiple medical needs and medications that make 24-hour supervision mandatory.

The other child has a terminal lung disease that she has beaten 6 years past her originally declared prognosis date. She requires oxygen in many forms depending on being home or on the go. Some very expensive medications have helped keep her alive such as: IVIG (Immunoglobulin for immune deficiency), different immune suppressants (for autoimmune flares), pain medications, muscle relaxers, gastro-intestinal treatments, and others.

My primary insurance has covered 80% of everything because the law currently allows my kids to stay on my insurance due to disability. The yearly co-pay for both kids is 5000.00 -- each. Without Medicaid, I'd be paying more co-pays for doctors, medicines, and hospital stays. But, the bigger picture includes me being unable to work without the Medicaid resources for nursing support in my home. Then, I'd have no insurance and my kids would be reliant on Medicare without enough money in their social security disability to cover even the Medicare co-pays. We would shortly be homeless. Do I dare mention that I'd be in no condition financially to pay for other insurance coverage?

I see my kids at risk of dying and me being helpless to stop it.

The entire population with whom I have worked my last 30 years has been the disabled population. Without Medicaid support, they are all at risk of dying. Many parents won't be able to stay employed. It has been my life's work to give these children and their families quality of life in unfortunate circumstances utilizing Medicaid services. I now see them without support. I see them falling into a big abyss, unseen by lawmakers who haven't experienced being poor or having to see a disabled love one being denied care. We cannot deem our civilization one of "survival of the fittest".

Those people in Washington who profess to represent all Americans need to understand the numbers of people who will probably die while states struggle without Federal funds to maintain Medicaid. And, that there is an entire section of the economy that will collapse without Medicaid money to maintain service providers from Durable Medical Equipment, Nursing visits and Private Duty services, transport services, adaptive equipment companies, and Physical/Occupational/Speech Therapies. As the economy bows, private donations to Pediatric hospitals will dry up. I'm not even taking into account the elderly and other adults with disabilities at home and in Medicaid facilities.

While I may not have been keen on "Obamacare", repealing it with no coverage is not the answer. Repealing it with an economic plan that includes somebody eventually fixing it at the state level, is not the answer. Repealing it and leaving millions uncovered by insurance, allowing everyone with any pre-existing conditions to have no coverage, allowing preventative care to go away or be used to deny services as pre-existing --- not the answer. Repealing it and letting my kids, as well as my patient population die, is not the answer.

I implore anyone who will listen to maintain Medicaid. It's not just for the "poor".

Please don't hesitate to call for questions.

Sincerely,

Jane Nosonchu [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tana Schwemin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The time is now

Good Morning,

My name is Tana Schwemin. I am one of the tens of million regular mom's in America. I am writing you today to urge a NO vote on Graham-Cassidy.

32 million Americans cannot afford to lose health insurance. 65 million people on Medicaid cannot afford to lose their care with the inhumane spending caps detailed in this bill.

Of the many reasons that this bill is horrifically cruel and harmful to all of our citizens, I want to focus on our medically fragile children that stand to lose it all with this bill. Specifically, my friends son, Nathan. He just turned 4 years old and he's a fighter. He has a rare genetic disease called Schwachman-Diamond Syndrome. Medically typical children can handle a small cut, a bug bite, eating food orally. Nathan cannot. A small bug bite or cut can turn into a life threatening infection for Nathan. Nathan is pre-lukemic. He has to have bone marrow biopsies regularly to make sure that if he does develop leukemia, it's caught early. Nathan is ALIVE today because of two things, his incredible family and Medicaid. Nathan relies on daily shots of Neupogen, which stimulates the growth of white blood cells, and keeps him alive.

Just to break it down, without Medicaid, the basics that Nathan needs on a monthly basis would cost:

Neupogen: \$5,430
Tube Feed Formula: \$2,200
Pancreas medicine: \$600
Kidney Medicine: \$350
4 inhalers \$1,100
Reflux Medicine \$460
Antibiotics \$72

That's IF he does not make a visit to the ER, which for a simple fever costs \$2500.

Without an ER visit, that's: \$10,212 a month. With a single ER visit, that's \$12,712 a month. With Medicaid AND private insurance, it costs them \$35. Their private insurance covers most everything, but Medicaid is absolutely essential in keeping Nathan healthy and keeping this family out of financial disaster.

Without access to world class pediatric specialists, emergency room staff, the devices and medicine that Nathan relies upon, I'm not sure we'd see the happy, resilient, warrior of a 4 year old that we see in this video below.

<http://fox17online.com/2017/08/23/muskegon-twp-firefighters-help-boy-with-rare-disease-celebrate-birthday/>

It is our job as adults and your job as legislators to fight for and protect our most vulnerable citizens. This is Nathan. This is all of our children. This is our elderly. This is our Veterans. This is our disabled. This is our sick. This is ALL OF US.

I know that you took this job to advocate for and fight for the Country and it's people that you love so much. PLEASE, make the right choice and vote "NO" on Graham-Cassidy. If not for your Country, for Nathan. He deserves a fighting chance.

I appreciate your time and your consideration. I hope that your legacy will remain in tact and you will be on the long list of heroes, on the right side of history.

This is your chance to be on the right side of history. We are paying close attention and will how you vote will determine how hard we either campaign for or against you in your upcoming re-election cycle.

Best Regards,

Tana Schwemin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kimball, Kristen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I strongly urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage, destroy Medicaid, and harm the most vulnerable members of our communities - seniors and people with disabilities. It also targets people with pre-existing conditions, like my husband with never-smoker, stage IV lung cancer. His medicine costs \$15,000 a month.

The cynical attempt to bribe Senators Murkowski and Collins further illustrates the base, utter lack of character amongst the designers and supporters of this bill.

Kristen Kimball

[REDACTED]

Kristen H. Kimball, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Neurobiology
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Lewis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Deborah Lewis
Washington, DC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gary Clark <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Protect our seniors, this is a terrible bill!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anderson, Colleen [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy ACA Repeal Bill

Dear Senators,

I am writing to urge you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy ACA Repeal Bill. Like previous bills to repeal health care that were already rejected this summer in the Senate, it would have a devastating impact on America's families. Specifically, Graham-Cassidy would:

- Cause more than 30 million people to lose their health insurance
- Make devastating cuts to the expanded Medicaid program. Under Graham-Cassidy, the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion would end altogether by 2027, throwing millions of people off their coverage.
- Cap funding for the traditional Medicaid program, which provides vital care to seniors, children, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.
- Cut funding for the financial assistance that helps people purchase insurance through the Affordable Care Act's insurance marketplaces.
- Allow states to eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions and to end the requirements that insurers cover a set of essential health benefits like oral health services, prescription drugs, maternity care, and mental health care.

Please vote in the best interest of all Americans. Vote no.

Sincerely,

Colleen Anderson, DDS

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

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula H. Baxter, LMT RMT [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Personal impact of loosing Affordable Quality Care

Paula H. Baxter, LMT, RMT PA MSG004257 Visit my Web Site! <http://paulabaxmassage.wix.com/paula-baxter-healing>

On Thursday, September 21, 2017, Paula H. Baxter, LMT RMT <paulabaxmassage@aol.com> wrote:

Dear members of Congress,

I ask to please listen to the many stories of so many Americans who have had their lives saved by having access to Affordable Quality Healthcare. We are real, we are depending on you, and we do vote.

I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease that requires regular testing through blood work to prevent my thyroid gland from putting me into anaphylaxis. I have come close to dying a few times in the recent years, and without quality care I could afford, and the release of PUNISHMENT due to PRE EXISTING CONDITIONS, I was able to survive the attacks and receive care to keep me stable.

My life is in your hands, as are so many. I deserve to have quality care that protects me from elevated premiums as punishment for having a disease. It is time for you to stop pandering to those special interest groups who line your pockets, and remember the citizens of the USA who pay your salary and elect you to represent them.

I am completely disgusted that the fight to save my life is constant, and the Republican Party doesn't give a damn.

Paula H. Baxter
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula H. Baxter, LMT RMT [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Fwd: Personal impact of loosing Affordable Quality Care

Dear members of Congress,

I ask to please listen to the many stories of so many Americans who have had their lives saved by having access to Affordable Quality Healthcare. We are real, we are depending on you, and we do vote.

I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease that requires regular testing through blood work to prevent my thyroid gland from putting me into anaphylaxis. I have come close to dying a few times in the recent years, and without quality care I could afford, and the release of PUNISHMENT due to PRE EXISTING CONDITIONS, I was able to survive the attacks and receive care to keep me stable.

My life is in your hands, as are so many. I deserve to have quality care that protects me from elevated premiums as punishment for having a disease. It is time for you to stop pandering to those special interest groups who line your pockets, and remember the citizens of the USA who pay your salary and elect you to represent them.

I am completely disgusted that the fight to save my life is constant, and the Republican Party doesn't give a damn.

Paula H. Baxter
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]y
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lucas-Youmans, Cindi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Cindi lucas-youmans
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: thewendyb <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering.

Because if you do not reject it, children will die.

So will mothers. Grandmothers and grandfathers too.

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.

As a disabled woman, this is a life or death struggle for me. I want to live.

Wendy Ballard
[REDACTED]

Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marion Sills [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why I oppose Graham-Cassidy

My name is Marion Sills and I have worked as a pediatric emergency doctor for over 21 years.

It is said that the emergency department is the barometer of how well our safety net is working. After 21 years of bearing witness, I believe in this. Here is my biggest concern about the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill – it tears holes in the safety net wide enough for hundreds of thousands of Coloradans and millions of Americans to fall right through.

As an emergency medicine pediatrician, I see this as a story of two emergency departments (EDs): the Affordable Care Act (ACA) ED and the Graham-Cassidy ED. The Graham-Cassidy Bill would take us back to healthcare before the ACA and before Medicaid was passed in 1965--back to 1950s healthcare.

In the ACA ED, a second grader named Jose comes in struggling to breathe. We diagnose him with asthma, and get him on medication that lets him thrive at school. Meanwhile in the Graham-Cassidy ED, his 8-year old cousin Harvey comes in with the same thing and spends his childhood being rushed back and forth to the ED, struggling to breathe, because his family cannot afford the asthma medication that would keep him healthy.

Another example: Irma passes out in her high school swim meet and gets taken to the ACA ED where she is diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. She gets started on regular diabetes care and returns to break two Colorado state swim records. Meanwhile, her cousin Maria gets diagnosed in the Graham-Cassidy ED and her family goes medically bankrupt trying to access good care and medications for her diabetes.

But we all know this is not just about Jose and Harvey and Irma and Maria. This is about all of us, including the 470,000 Coloradans and 32 million Americans who would lose coverage under Graham-Cassidy.

One reason offered for those favoring the Graham-Cassidy bill is that the ACA is failing. I have seen the ACA in action and I must tell you that on the front lines of medicine, the ACA has been life saving for my patients. We must not let Graham-Cassidy take us back to the land of untreated conditions and medical bankruptcies. We must not go back. Do not allow this draconian bill to come to a vote.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone so please forgive iTypos

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steimle, Meg [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill

Dear Senators,

Thank you for this opportunity to make comment on this bill.

Do you realize the gravity of what you are doing with the Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson bill by dismantling Medicaid? I understand your dislike for the ACA/Obamacare but please don't decimate this critically important program.

Yes, it is an entitlement for the poor, elderly and disabled.

When I say disabled I think of my son. Adam. He has a rare condition that affects his whole being. No one's fault, just how it is. He's 23 years old and needs 24/7 care. My husband and I are doing that in addition to both working full time. Our son attends a day program where he can get the care he needs while we work. His IRIS plan (one of Wisconsin's Medicaid long term care waiver programs) pays for that as well as for caregiver's for when my husband and I need a break to go out for dinner or to have some relaxed time with friends.

Our son is happy and well cared for as things are now, but if his IRIS budget gets reduced or cut over time that puts more on us, his caregiver's. We are approaching retirement and want to be able to actually do that. I fear that if the caps happen, as his needs increase, and they will, he won't get what is required because the funds won't change as his needs do. I struggle when I think that one of us will need to quit a job to provide the care he needs because funds to pay for his care have been cut and capped. That also takes one of us out of the tax-paying work force.

Please put yourself in my shoes, what would you do to protect your child/teen/young adult/parent/grandparent from losing their lifeline to living the best life they can? And by best I don't mean expensive; I mean a full life, living in the community not an institution and enjoying what they can in the least restrictive setting around people who know and love them and who they love. Wouldn't you want that for your family members too?

We live in a complicated world with complicated issues. Please don't forget about your constituents, people who love this country.

Margaret Steimle
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Becky Showalter [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25

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

My story with coverage caps is this – before the ACA, I walked with my mom on her two recurrences of Multiple Myeloma cancer and when she died we were very aware that she was within \$100,000 of her lifetime cap. How heart-wrenching (and guilt-filled) to have to think “thank goodness she died now instead of six months from now” . . . my young family would have sold everything to keep treating her; my children’s future would have been at risk, our home, our credit, our solvency. This should never happen in this great (and wealthy) country. And if the Graham-Cassidy bill passes, it could happen to almost any of us at any time. It’s just luck of the draw.

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

Sincerely,
Rebecca Showalter
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lesley Braga [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Healthcare

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition that could raise my cost of insurance or increase the chances of being rejected all together. My health is stable now. I am a homeowner, a taxpayer, and an active member of my community. Treating my existing condition as a red flag that could effect corporate profits is wrong, it's immoral. Frankly, it could ruin my life.

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

Sincerely, Lesley Braga

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Hamilton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

I urge the committee to seek quality healthcare for all Americans. Seek health care that you would want your family members to have. The Cassidy Graham will not do this. It is well past time for leaders to work toward making quality healthcare for all a reality.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Moe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing. Monday sept. 25, 2017

Hello-

I am dependent on quality affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a melanoma cancer survivor who would be unable to purchase quality affordable health care without the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing -- comments from an American voter

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

To members of the Finance Committee:

As a brain tumor survivor and health educator with more than 20 years experience helping others whose lives have been affected by brain tumors, I am outraged that the Graham-Cassidy Bill is even being considered by our Congress. There are numerous serious omissions in this proposed legislation, but perhaps the one that has the greatest potential to financially devastate the largest number of Americans is the limitation on coverage for those of us with any type of pre-existing condition. While states may have the option to provide certain types of coverage for these citizens, the proposals that have been publicized include increased costs that would be unaffordable for almost all people. The fact that the United States of America does not provide health care to all of its citizens is unacceptable. However until Universal Health Care becomes a reality, proposals like the Graham-Cassidy Bill are an insult to every American. The worst part of this proposed legislation is that in the event that it was implemented, Americans will die or suffer serious health consequences due to the limitations in coverage. Do not allow this to happen!

Sincerely,

Nancy Conn-Levin

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Gitman <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. As someone who has suffered with asthma since the age of 4, the rule on preexisting conditions from ObamaCare is essential to my financial, mental, and physical security. Please don't let them take it away.

Laura Gitman
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Ghitelman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller. This bill would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Mary Ghitelman
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ozomene@gmail.com on behalf of Claire Secrist <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy comments from Claire Secrist, Durham NC

Good day,

My name is Claire Secrist, and I live in Durham, NC with my husband Allen and three year old daughter, Holly.

My daughter is a survivor of the pediatric cancer retinoblastoma. She lost her eye to this cancer, but thanks to Medicaid, she will live a long cancer-free life. Medicaid also covers her post-cancer monitoring, her protective glasses, and her prosthetic eye. Without Medicaid, none of this would have been accessible to us. Artificial eyes can run into the thousands of dollars; we simply would not be able to afford to get her a new one whenever she outgrew the last one.

To block grant Medicaid, is to risk my child having no post-cancer monitoring and no prosthetic eye. It is also risking the lives of other future pediatric cancer victims who are on Medicaid.

In addition, I am dependent on the ACA to help me manage my asthma and my depression. They're currently under great control, but that's only because I have regular and affordable access to my doctor and to prescription medication to control it. Without this management, I likely could not work, I would be hard pressed to care for my family, and could die.

Repealing the ACA is an homicidal slap in the face to people like my family, and especially to people like my daughter.

Thank you,

Claire Secrist
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 27705

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacey Dinner-Levin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

I am the parent/guardian/care provider of a 27 year old man with autism. His Medicaid benefits allows us to care for him and provides for his services and supports. He is a good and worthy young man who has been robbed of so much quality of life due to his disability. Please do not take away that which helps him be a party of his community. His medication alone would be inaccessible.

I urge you to stand up for our most vulnerable citizens and vote against Graham Cassidy. If we do not stand for our most vulnerable, we cannot claim to stand for much of anything that is good.

Sincerely,

Stacey Dinner-Levin

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shannon Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please - NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

As the parent of two children with disabilities (autistic spectrum), I have no choice but to fight for their RIGHT TO LIFE and everything that it entails - joy and heartache, trials and triumph, hard work and reward -- a place in her community.

Despite many of your colleagues' false assurances to the contrary, Graham Cassidy leaves those with pre-existing conditions (like autism and my epilepsy) dangerously vulnerable.

Its draconian cuts to Medicaid will leave our most vulnerable citizens -- most notably our parents, grandparents and disabled loved ones - without the lifeline they so desperately need to be able to live and work in their communities, where they belong.

It may be easy to ignore the emotionally charged plea of a terrified mother, but my stance on the bill is based in fact, not fear.

The American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Hospital Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association have all implored you to vote NO on this bill.

All 50 State Directors of Medicaid, and myriad other groups including the JDRF, ALS Association, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Arthritis Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Family Voices, JDRF, Lutheran Services in America, March of Dimes, National Health Council, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Organization for Rare Diseases, Volunteers of America, and WomenHeart, among many, many others have issued statements imploring you to vote NO on this bill.

This isn't about politics. It's about people like my daughters, and not just my but OUR sacred responsibility to fight for her Right to Life.

Please, I'm begging, VOTE NO ON GRAHAM CASSIDY."

Regards,

Shannon Johnson
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Coate-Schulz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Save American's health, DO NOT ALLOW the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill to pass. Millions will loose healthcare, suffer dire health consequences, send millions back to the emergency rooms!

Jennifer Coate-Schulz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marg <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy bill

This bill must not pass. We all oppose this bill as it would be a death sentence for millions of Americans.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Beaudoin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Cassidy-Graham bill
Attachments: US Finance Cassidy-Graham.docx; ATT00001.txt; PastedGraphic-1.tiff

Dear members of the US Finance Committee,

Attached please find comments submitted by ABLE NH (Advocates Building Lasting Equality New Hampshire). We strongly oppose the Cassidy-Graham bill.

Aids to the Senate Finance Committee, please be sure to print this attached letter for review by members of Finance.

ABLE NH awaits a response.

Sincerely,

Lisa D. Beaudoin, Policy Director
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Mitchell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Savage, Susannah (Warren); Pearson, Beth (Warren)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Comments

My name is Kate Mitchell, I'm 26 years old, and I live with 6 chronic illnesses. They are rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, endometriosis, chronic anemia, asthma, and a cardiac issue we are in the midst of diagnosing (although we know that there is a heart problem). I've been in pain for 16 years, I receive chemotherapy infusions once every 4 months, and I take around 40 pills a day.

As you can imagine, the costs for my health care are incredibly high without insurance. My medications alone were around \$150,000 before insurance last year. This year, my costs will be at least as high as they were last year since I also had knee surgery. Not receiving medical treatment is non-negotiable, as if I do not take my medications, my RA will progress to more permanent joint damage and attacking my organs. I developed endometriosis last year when I tried to change from my infusion to another medication. It did not work, and my body progressed to attacking my reproductive system.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will be a death sentence for me and everyone like me. Despite what President Trump has said, it does not require maintaining coverage for pre-existing conditions. If I do not have insurance, it will be impossible for me to keep taking all of my medications. Additionally, it gets rid of lifetime caps, which will make it impossible for me to receive the care that I need. I have 2-5 medical appointments a week and will need multiple surgeries over the course of my life, and I won't be able to do that if there are not lifetime caps.

Please protect me and the hundreds of millions of Americans who live with pre-existing conditions.

Kate Mitchell

--

Kate Mitchell

[REDACTED]
Writer and Blogger | [REDACTED]
Life & availability updates can be found on [REDACTED]
Twitter: @[REDACTED]
Instagram: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dalia Zygas [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Dalia Zygas
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Farron Hakanson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Farron Hakanson
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Britt Meidenbauer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill hearing today

As I was driving into work today I'm listening to news about how some states will get more money under the bill, some less. How Republican leadership was trying this weekend to make the bill better for states whose senators were close to saying no. Is this what we've become? Is this how we negotiate now? Entire states are ignored or will have long-term effects because they weren't worth a vote? Those states are really people.

I hear often "tell your story" - I don't really have a story. I'm sure my thyroid issue will be precondition, maybe my weight - but I don't have anything that requires thousands of dollars worth of medical care yearly. The thing is, I don't need to have a personal story to care about others. I don't need a story to know that we think we (or really a lot our things) are valuable enough to be protected by police and fire but some people would be in trouble if they got burned by the flames because without health insurance they couldn't pay.

Heard a speech over the weekend that says we spend \$3.3 Trillion dollars a year on healthcare - I can't believe that 100 people can't agree on how to best spend it.

Vote no on this bill and work as a group to write legislation that only needs a bit of common sense to understand.

Britt Meidenbauer
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Glover [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Jessi Leigh Swenson
Subject: National Partnership for Women & Families, Statement for the Record
Attachments: StatementfortheRecord_GrahamCassidy_National PArtnership for Women & Families.pdf

Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden,

The National Partnership for Women & Families is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that has fought for decades to strengthen our health care system and advance the rights and well-being of women. On behalf of women across the country who are the health care decision-makers for themselves and their families, we write in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal (“the Graham-Cassidy proposal”) to repeal the Affordable Care Act. The Graham-Cassidy proposal is yet another assault on the health care women and families rely on.

Please see attached for our full statement.

stephanie glover

[REDACTED] health policy analyst

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dave Kimball <dtkimball@storrs.edu>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Dave Kimball
Storrs, CT

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Justin Wagers
London, KY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH comment from K.Shanahan

Good morning,

Yesterday, I drove my 18 year old college freshman son back to his college in Virginia. I am proud of his accomplishment to follow his dream of playing college level football. I see him and his new friends on the team and I wonder what will the Graham Cassidy bill mean to the next generation? I believe this bill will undo many of the provisions that families rely on to obtain needed healthcare. This generation will know the crushing health care costs to treat pre-existing conditions or to welcome a new baby into the world, if Graham Cassidy bill passes in current form. **Please vote no.**

I strongly suggest Congressional leaders return to a bipartisan effort to fix and improve current system. We should tackle the root causes of rising costs of healthcare, including drug costs.

Thanks, Kimberly Shanahan
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: three3monkeys [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to the life toll on gch

I am opposed to the idea of providing state discretion over health care, allowing each state the option to opt out of coverage for select services and medicaid services. I also oppose the allocation of funds to states, which unfairly benefits states that are unproductive and not contributing their fair share to the national revenue. I think any Healthcare should provide affordable rates, cover preexisting conditions, and be universally available across states. This GC Healthcare bill is a travesty and it shouldn't even be a close vote to turn it down.

Sincerely,

Susan Misra
US citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim K <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

As a health care provider, 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.

Dr Kim Kensington
[REDACTED]

Sent from KK's iProcrastinate Device

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Your name]
[City, State]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Darlene Vescio <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Charles Vescio
State College, Pa.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zahava Wilson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Members of the Finance Committee:

Do not repeal the Affordable Health Care Act. I am curious about who pays for YOUR family's health care? The answer is that I pay for your health care and all of the people of this country pay for it. How dare you take away the health care for ME and MY FAMILY without replacing it with something that will actually work. And to punish the "blue states" by giving them lesser healthcare? You actually call yourselves representatives of the people? Please stop looking at your own pockets and start representing the needs of the people in this country.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lora Wikle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why Medicaid matters to us

Here's our story:

My first son Blake, unbeknownst to us, had a stroke in utero and was born with severe cerebral palsy. He is nonverbal and non ambulatory. He gets nutrition by feeding tube and has seizures every day.

I work in the healthcare field and have excellent insurance.

When my second son was born three years later, I cried in the hospital and told the nurses to not send me home because I couldn't take care of both of them.

Medicaid thru a waiver has been our family's life saver. It has allowed Blake to stay in our home and not be institutionalized. It has provided him with skilled nursing that's kept him in better health. It's also allowed him to go to school. It has also meant that his brother has been able to have a normal a childhood. I have also been able to work full time and contribute to society.

Medicaid has helped our family a great deal so that we all can have #alifelikeyours.

Please keep up the fight for us.

Sincerely,
Lora Wikle

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Su Friedrich <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:14 AM
To: gchcomments; sufriedrich
Subject: no Senator or Congressperson wil suffer

Hi,
We were expected to write heart-wrenching accounts of how much our friends and family will be devastated by the effects of the Graham-Cassidy bill.
I could write one of those, just as most other Americans can, and I hope will.
But I only want to say that my primary opposition to it is that those Republicans are voting for a bill that will in no way effect them personally (except to enrich them, since a major aspect of the bill is tax cuuts for the walthy).
None of them will be directly affected by the restrictions and provisions of the bill when it comes to the health and well-being of their own families and those close to them.
We all know that.
They all know that.
They're heartless and greedy, but they're not fools when it comes to protecting their own families and their own health.
Su Friedrich
a registered voter
[REDACTED]
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Seligman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Travesty

This bill is a travesty to the wishes of the 'democracy'. Pushing it through with the best slight of hand a parliamentarian can devise does not make it the will of the people. Tens of thousands will suffer from the racist and greedy defeat of the ACA. The wealth of this country stands in direct contrast to its place in longevity, health and healthcare among the 'advanced' nations of the world. That our elected officials don't see country before greed and utter self interest is distressing. Surprise us with a modicum of humanity. And then, Medicare for All.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joe Volpe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I am absolutely opposed to Graham/Cassidy. To deny some 30 million people health care through the repeal of the ACA is a stunning moral failure. The repeal is cruel and cynical and incompatible with the high ideals of a great nation.

Joseph Volpe

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

I am deeply concerned that the Graham-Cassidy Bill is being proposed more as an effort to save political face than it is to provide fair and compassionate healthcare to all Americans. The price to be paid by making **quality** healthcare to only those who can afford it, and to put at great risk the healthcare available through Medicaid and supplements that millions of other Americans depend upon is unconscionable and hardly a sign of leadership! And the latest attempt of trying to bribe Senators from Maine and Alaska to support the Bill, by offering exclusive incentives only further sullies the intent of this Bill!

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Boberg <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No repeal of healthcare

Please improve ACA.Do not repeal it-Do do so would put my family in jeopardy since my daughter has a chronic condition that requires periodic brain surgery-Robert Boberg-47 Orchard Street South Grafton, Ma - 1560

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheila Walsh Dettloff [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I am a breast cancer survivor (so far), and 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.

Sheila Dettloff
Macomb, Michigan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christi Clemons [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Christi Clemons Hoffman

[REDACTED]

Kansas City, MO 64110

I strongly oppose the dangerous Graham-Cassidy bill. It will drive millions of Americans off of their health insurance. By allowing states to choose whether preexisting conditions are covered, and for how much, millions of Americans with preexisting conditions will not be able to get or afford health insurance.

I have had two strokes, for which a cause has never been determined--no heart problems, no high blood pressure, normal cholesterol, etc. The costs for testing have been exorbitant. If I have another one, I will have to go through more MRIs, more heart monitors, more ER visits. I am self employed. There is no way I can pay for any of that without health insurance. If I were to lose the coverage I have, I would not be able to afford high-risk coverage (if I could even get it).

Then there are the autoimmune issues I have. Five, so far. If you have one autoimmune disease, others follow.

I am terrified to think where I would be without health insurance. PLEASE do not pass this dangerous and cruel bill.

Sincerely,

Christi Clemons Hoffman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Carol Griffin
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Holdren <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I just wanted to add my voice to the many who are opposing this bill. This affects way too many people negatively. My niece with Cerebral Palsy has a lifelong need for affordable healthcare. My grandniece, born yesterday, may have a lifelong need or may not, who knows. Life throws things at you and, even with two working parents, one never knows what's in store.

Please work together with the whole Congress to pass reasonable healthcare. Fix the Affordable Care Act. Change the name if you must but start from there.

Sincerely,
Kathy Holdren
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Hello,

Please allow me the opportunity to emphasize the danger to myself, my family, and millions of Americans posed by the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My family relies on affordable healthcare, not as a convenience or a perk, but for life.

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because of the harm that will result if it passes.

My husband and I have worked hard for many years, contributed to the well-being of the country, paid taxes, and taken care of ourselves to the extent possible.

However, with costly pre-existing conditions, we need health coverage that cannot be denied to us because of these conditions, and which, most importantly, we will not lose if insurance companies are free to set their own rates for those of us with pre-existing conditions, rates which will make coverage unaffordable and therefore unattainable. If this bill becomes law, we will face major health consequences and financial ruin.

I urge Congress to work toward a bipartisan effort to meaningfully improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Sincerely,

Elaine Kaven
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Blair Koontz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Without Medicaid I would be unable to Finally make the progress I have made. My TBI was an ongoing Medical nightmare for five years before I lost all access to insurance and ended up on Medicaid. Thank God!

This past year, While on Medicaid, i have finally been provided the resources for my health and expect to open my own business in January! After five years of unemployment and disability due to health issues, I will be able to be a productive member of society.

This bill will negatively impact my progress. Please! Do not change my access to Hopkins by making me uninsured!

Please call me if you want more information on how this impacts regular Americans like me who want to return to work after health issues have caused job loss. 757.709.9705

Deborah Blair Koontz

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Behzad Kamgar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear madam/sir:

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

Best regards,

Behzad Kamgar
Vienna, VA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary HallRayford [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health Bill

Ladies and Gentlemen,

When making a decision as to how to proceed with consideration of this bill, please consider "all Americans" and not just those for whom a bribe has been offered to Senators in order to get their support.

I'm appalled that anyone with a heart or claims to know Christ, can act against the needs of the poor and needy. To gut medicaid in order to appease wealthy donors is abominable governing. It makes America no better than third world countries with dictators raping their countries and keeping all the wealth to themselves.

This is America and I'd like to believe we're better than those with whom we have conflict with their treatment of others. If we are to continue with a leadership stance on the global stage, we'd better get our act together and put people before party agenda or promises that will cost millions their lives.

We cannot point fingers at other countries and denounce them for the way they treat their citizens if this bill is passed. We become the least of those who's humanitarian efforts are vain and futile.

Since the GOP is supposed to be the party of "family values" and morality, I suggest you all take a look at yourselves in the mirror and ask yourselves this question: Would Jesus be happy with what you're doing to Him? And yes, you're doing it to Him and if you don't believe me, re-read Matthew 25 and see for yourselves. If you

think you're going to be welcomed into heaven, think again. If you mistreat any of us, you have mistreated Him.

Thank you for your time and now I'm praying you'll seek Him and make decisions that benefit those who need it the most--not the wealthy 1% who can afford their own healthcare w/o taxpayer funding.

--

Mary M. Hall-Rayford

viewAuthor.at/maryglobal

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa Rinehart [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Dear Senators,

I beg you to act in the best interests of the American people. Do not take away health care by eliminating protection for preexisting conditions or essential benefits. Do not allow premiums to become so high that only the privileged will have health care.

To those who currently have the majority, you have had many years to craft an alternative, but all you have now is a seemingly spite-based attempt to just reverse what President Obama built.

Fix the problems with the ACA. Stabilize the markets. Take care of your people, because we are out here, many of us sick and in pain, and we are watching. History is watching.

Respectfully,

Theresa Rinehart
Arlington, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John L <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare destruction

The current "healthcare" bill under consideration is a meaner, crueler version of the two previous attempts to undo the Affordable Care Act.

Why is the Republican Party so intent on taking access to healthcare away from millions of the least fortunate in America? And giving even more tax cuts to the people who do not need them?

Kill this bill before it kills us.

Dr John A Loesch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patty Heine [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill
Attachments: IMG_1632.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017 Patricia Heine
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

My Story

I have no idea where my family would be without Medicaid. My son, Stephen, is now almost 11 years old, and when he was 17 months old, he was diagnosed with a rare disorder that affects all of his development. He is non-verbal, and has physical and cognitive delays. To date, he has had 7 operations for a variety of syndrome-related health issues.

That's why what is happening thousands of miles away in Washington, DC this week is so personal to families like mine. The debate over whether to call it a "cut" or a "slowing of growth" or "reduced reimbursement" does not change the fact that multiple non-partisan experts predict that Oklahoma and all other states will receive significantly less federal monies for Medicaid over the next ten years.

Families like mine are tired of the rhetoric.

Oklahoma did not take the Medicaid expansion dollars. Why are we being punished in the bill being pushed through the U.S. Senate?

Reducing federal Medicaid funding permanently will not help Oklahoma innovate and meet the needs of our state residents. It will not protect optional services like therapies for children, autism services, TEFRA, or prescription meds. Families like mine have seen the impacts of even minor decisions meant to cut costs in Medicaid that end up hurting people or reducing their quality of care.

My worst fear for Stephen's adult life is that the Medicaid supports meant to help end up only being enough to afford a very small life. A life where I, his Mom, am his only caretaker because I can no longer work outside the home; where he has no friends or young adult activities because there is no transportation in her plan; he has no supports to get a job where he can contribute something.

In the more immediate future, Medicaid pays a small amount towards his educational supports, including a communication device to allow him to speak, speech therapy, and occupational and physical therapy, all of which support my son as he learns alongside his typical peers in the 4th grade classroom. Stephen's favorite subjects are science and math, by the way. If not for Medicaid, he and all of the other disabled children at his school would be segregated, and taught only the bare minimum in preparation for a future in a sheltered workshop or worse, an institution.

This is the stuff about decisions being made thousands of miles away that keep Moms like me awake at night.

In addition to the reduction in funding for Medicaid, the issue of Lifetime Caps weighs heavily on my mind. Just 2.5 months ago, Stephen had necessary spinal surgery, for which our insurance was billed almost \$85,000. Considering his

previous 6 operations, as well as regular medical care, I would estimate that he would reach a \$1,000,000 lifetime limit within the next 10 years. And then what are we supposed to do?

Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vivien Tartter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

This bill is a monstrosity and worse, probably most of you know it. There is no way you would vote for it if you and your families would be covered by it only. You recognize that sufficiently to offer an easing of it to two states whose senators you want to vote for it. Consider the 48 others. And all the blood and suffering on your hands if this goes through!

There is no reason not to amend the Affordable Care Act to make it better, and not under a time table.

Please use both your heads and your hearts and vote no.

Vivien Tartter
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dennis Phillips <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

I am a life long Republican. I have never voted for a Democrat.

If anyone in my family, anyone I work with or anyone I know is hurt by the elimination or alteration of the ACA I will work as hard as I can to turn them out of office.

I'm sick and tired of narrow minded politicians who put their interests and the interests of those who own them ahead of the people they are supposed to serve.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanne Connors <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because as someone who has a preexisting condition and someone in their fifties, I know that the rates will go up across the board and people will be taxed for approaching getting older or having anything in their history will be charged more for the remainder of their lives.

When I was in my mid-twenties I felt that invulnerability and let my insurance lapse when I was in grad school. I could not be on my parent's plan and the rate was too high based on my perceived risk. I was diagnosed with cancer. This would have wiped out my parents. I was avoidant and did not get the best care. Thankfully, it was misdiagnosed but the concept of young people being burdened by supporting older people is the concept of insurance. It is also insurance that things will not go wrong. It was wreckless of me. The insurance concept is based on a lifelong plan, so it normalizes for everyone. I was surprised that Paul Ryan made public comments that sounded as if he was saying young people will be taxed for being young and taking out insurance when their health is good. I recognize from experience how very irresponsible that is and how you are part of a community and life phase. We must all work together and be responsible. This is not responsible!!!!

Later, during my first pregnancy, I developed a blood clot and found that I have Factor 5 blood clotting disorder. I was told that 10-20 percent of Caucasians from northern Europe have it but they do not know it. That it is not something to be concerned about unless I am pregnant, obese, or very old. Now, my doctor told me that it is the preexisting condition that will profile me and make me pay more and that many people who do not think that they have preexisting conditions or would be affected by health care reform are delusional.

Please recognize the profound impact of this vote and reform and choose to vote to protect the health of all. This is life or death and although I cannot fathom the responsibility that you have chosen for yourself, I do recognize that you will have to live with that decision. When someone tells a story about one of their loved ones dying as a result of lack of insurance that resulted from this bill, you will have to own part of that. It taints your soul and burdens you a little more with every story. I truly hope that that does not happen for you but I also hope that your ability to have a conscious has not been jaded either from the work that you have chosen for yourself. This is more profound than a doctor's malpractice. It is not one body on the table when you make a mistake, it is millions and millions. Good luck. I hope you make the right decision!

Joanne Connors
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brittany Bennett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I'm writing to express my deep concerns about the Graham-Cassidy bill that is being proposed to replace the Affordable Care Act. This bill will hurt a lot of people. Tens of millions of people are expected to lose their health insurance, with millions more losing coverage and/or becoming unable to afford a comprehensive plan.

I have a brother with a disability, and he depends on government resources for his extensive health care needs. I worry that, if this bill passes, he will have a harder time getting the treatment and professional attention that are necessary for him to have a good quality of life.

Please, I urge you to stop this hurtful bill in its tracks and go back to regular order to find a fix for the ACA. The American people need you to do what is right and good.

Respectfully yours,
Brittany Bennett

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Yeatman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal of the ACA

Please do all you can to be sure this bill is not passed. It will ruin many people. Affordable health care is a right, not a privilege of the rich.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joannie Yeh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: vote NO NO NO for Graham Cassidy Bill

Good morning,

I am a doctor and the Graham Cassidy Bill is a disaster for anyone who has a disability, and for babies, pregnant women, any one not wanting to get pregnant, and anyone seeking mental healthcare (have we not learned that we need to support this and addiction treatment in our opioid crisis yet?). This bill is also bad for pretty much everyone else in between because don't we all have someone in our village that we love and/or rely on that is in one of those descriptions above that would suffer because of the Graham Cassidy Bill? I am still signing up patients for Medicaid who have chronic medical problems through NO fault of their own (they are kids) and their parents work and want to keep working. Please don't bankrupt them with the block grants.

Vote NO on the Graham Cassidy Bill. Please. For the sake of your neighbor's health, for the sake of America's health

Thank you.

Joannie Yeh, MD

[REDACTED] a

Nemours Pediatrics - Media

[REDACTED] 2400

[REDACTED]

Media, [REDACTED] 303

[REDACTED] 1100

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Dennehy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Committee Members,

I am appalled by the recent actions of Republican Senate members to bring forward yet another hastily conceived healthcare proposal. Healthcare impacts 1/6 of our economy and virtually all of our citizens, yet some unrelenting crusade to undo the progress we have made in our country has caused this zeal to "repeal and replace" that will hurt so many of the people that voted the current administration into office. Let's revisit the progress that we have made, and the improvements that are needed.

Mental health care - previously, very few insurers covered mental health care and mental health diagnoses were heavily stigmatized. If covered, people had caps on visits and this was very difficult to get appropriate treatment for - only the very few were able to get appropriate treatment. We have a long way to go in this country in this domain, but the passage of the ACA has been a huge improvement in access to affordable mental health care for Americans - this translates to lots of increased productivity, better long term outcomes for children who might have issues, and other benefits. Republicans say that they are pro-life - please consider protecting the lives of people with mental illness, and please do not remove this protection for the millions of Americans who were previously unable to afford this treatment.

On this note - even the previous horrible versions of Trumpcare covered treatment for the rising opioid epidemic that is sweeping our nation. In Indiana, because of the subversive policies of Pence, that is coupled with an infectious disease problem. Your current bill provides no funding to support this. There is no way that states will have sufficient budgetary funds to cover the basic needs of their populations as well as this emergent and high need population, that is still growing and requires preventative programs as well as intervention.

I am a healthy American who has paid into the health care system to help subsidize the care of those who were ill. I am happy to do so because I know that someday this will benefit me. That is how insurance works. I think it is curious that we, as citizens, have been explaining this to our lawmakers for the last 6 months, as they seem to have forgotten how insurance pools work. Let's revisit what we all learned 10 years ago, and then work together to improve and strengthen existing programs to ensure that all Americans have access to affordable and equitable health care.

Thank you.

Ellen Dennehy
Zionsville, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ab.sheahan [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Defeat Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

A basic level of healthcare needs to be affordable for everyone, from our 25 year-old son with depression in VA to my 55 year-old sister with colon/liver cancer in NY to my 80 year-old aunt with Alzheimer's disease in MO. Your bill with lack of coverage for pre-existing conditions and throwing the system to the states to fix (with extremely uneven benefits) just won't cut it!

Give this issue the time and bipartisan attention it deserves. Do not pass this bill.

Sincerely yours,

Alison Sheahan
[redacted]
[redacted]

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Sallee <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing today to express my deep concern over the Graham-Cassidy bill. Like most of the attempts of the GOP to repeal the ACA, this plan will harm Americans. This is not just my opinion. Almost every health care advocacy organization in the country opposes it. The Medicaid administrators of ALL 50 states oppose it.

I am an American woman who will soon reach 65 years of age, and I am increasingly worried about whether I will be able to afford good healthcare as I age. I've been incredibly fortunate, both in the fact that I have always been blessed with amazingly good health, AND by the fact that as a public school educator, I have had the opportunity to have good health insurance provided by my employer. I am transitioning to Medicare in a few weeks, and as I read EVERY analysis of this plan, I am more and more afraid that in the next few years, when I will probably encounter more health issues simply because I am aging...my health care access could be threatened.

AARP has put out a strong statement OPPOSING this plan, and they say, in part, that Graham-Cassidy "...would increase health care costs for older Americans with an age tax, decrease coverage, and undermine pre-existing condition protections. In addition, this bill would jeopardize the ability of older Americans and people with disabilities to stay in their own homes as they age and threaten coverage for individuals in nursing homes." These statements are very disturbing to me. I do NOT want to become a burden to my children, and I'm afraid that Graham-Cassidy makes this more likely.

I have a domestic partner, a strong independent man who has always paid his own way and who always worked hard until several years ago when he was forced through a series of circumstances beyond his control to retire. He has already had a bout with thyroid cancer, from which thankfully he has fully recovered. He was forced to rely on the financial aid program of the hospital system where we live, because our state (Georgia) is one of those whose Republican governor and legislature refused to expand Medicaid, and his income is too low to qualify for one of the subsidies. I have watched him struggle with the idea that he has to rely on a financial aid program to pay what is now more than \$125,000.00 that his treatment cost. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE...And now he has a pre-existing condition that could easily prevent him from EVER getting health insurance. This is inhumane.

Of all the plans put forth by the GOP for "health care" (and I put that in quotation marks intentionally, because health is the LEAST of their priorities and there is nothing caring about it) the Graham-Cassidy bill might just be the most cruel and most damaging to many, many Americans. Please do not let this evil plan pass.

Sincerely,
Sandra Sallee
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Christie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: "Graham-Cassidy" healthcare repeal bill

This bill makes no sense from an economic standpoint. The entire medical establishment, as well as the medical insurance industry, is opposed to it. Two of my three young adult children are insured through the exchange and have pre-existing conditions that previously made it impossible for them to get health insurance. All Americans should have access to basic, affordable health insurance and this should not depend on which state you live in. It is time to stop playing politics and put the interests of our citizens first. I urge you to vote against this bill!

Sincerely,
Gail Christie

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Glenn Fortune <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Glenn Fortune
[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Krista <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. Our Senators are supposed to act in our best interests but this bill removes important protections for preexisting conditions. Every single person will get sick or hurt or need expensive care at some point in their life, such as the care given to newborns or the dying!

Krista Gore
Rockaway, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Samantha Daugherty <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Trumpcare

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 professionals, nursing association, and hospital association are against it as are the majority of the voting citizens of this country.

Samantha Daugherty,
Toter, Registered Nurse, Nurse Practitioner Student, Resident of a red state, female w/ pre-existing health condition

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Zubaly [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. The issue of healthcare should be a legitimate, bipartisan effort with plenty of deliberation, not a rushed power grab that puts party over country. 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, women, and anyone with a pre-existing condition.

Mark Zubaly
Falls Church, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Gordon Delboy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: #GrahamCassidy "Healthcare Bill"

We are so disturbed and horrified by this bill, millions of Americans with pre-existing conditions will lose their healthcare !! What has happened to humanity, kindness and caring for our fellow man ?? We hope the Governors will influence their Senators and they will stand-up for all Americans !! Let them be heroes for the people, set an example of leadership and not be intimidated !!!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Vickery <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing--Monday, September 25, 2017

All families should be able to rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My 8-year-old daughter has struggled with asthma--it's horrible that Republicans would allow her to hit lifetime caps or be denied coverage in the future for this condition. I demand a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Vickery

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Migliacci <migliacci@ny.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Mark Migliacci
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peggy Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

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

Margaret Miller
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Helen Scott-Lewis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repair NOT Repeal

I'm against repealing the Affordable Care Act. Repair....not repeal. Make sure that the original components are there that keep costs down and make it work. Change and improve the parts that can be better. Here's the catch.....do it in a bipartisan way. It MUST be bipartisan. Stop playing a political chess game with American lives. Are you so insular that you can't see what your doing to the American people?

I've read the letters from the AMA, ACEP, and countless other groups who actually understand healthcare and insurance. Why are we behind other countries in guaranteeing healthcare for our citizens? Protect Americans with pre-existing conditions. Protect our seniors on fixed incomes. How about coverage for mental health? We MUST cover rehabilitation for addicts. That is the only way to make a dent in the opioid crisis.

Again...stop playing games with our lives. Repair, don't repeal the Affordable Care Act.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richmond Gardner [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because the need to replace the ACA/Obamacare has not been identified. There are two approaches we can take to fixing the ACA, we can make modest, incremental changes or we can toss the whole thing in the trash (tossing tens of millions of people off of their current ACA or Medicaid plans). The need for taking that drastic second step has not been demonstrated as the first step of making modest changes hasn't been tried by the legislature. President Obama did what he could via executive orders, but the ACA required Congressional changes. The House and Senate refused to make such changes because of a no-cooperation strategy, not because there were any specific problems they were protesting. Please, let's try incremental change first. Let's not throw tens of millions of people off of their currently-working health care plans just to push through a completely one-sided proposal that hasn't been examined.

Richmond Gardner
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Timothy Boyle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy outright. The only way to fix the Affordable Care Act is to repair and bolster it in its current form, or to expand Medicare to everyone whilst maintaining supplementary markets to allow for Employer provided supplements, Medicaid supplements, and Tricare supplements (these would allow vets to access private healthcare outside of the VA).

Every single proposed bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act thus far would have resulted in people losing coverage. When people lose coverage and access to healthcare, they can become disabled or die from treatable conditions. What's most appalling is that we, your constituents, have literally had to BEG for you not to take away healthcare. This is akin to us begging you not to allow people to die. Where is your conscience and humanity? Why do you value money over life? Why do you continue to tolerate a president who values money over life, and Russia over the USA?

Regards,

Tim Boyle

--

Sent via Phone. Apologies for any typos.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas Spellman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Insurance

Health insurance is NOT A COMMODITY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It is a human right and always has been Even reputable drug companies that have life saving drugs provide them to those who cannot afford them Charity is not a viable way to provide health care Charity does not keep open the doors of rural hospitals Treating Alaska differently does GREAT HARM to the rest of us WE ARE ALL citizens of States BUT WE ARE ALL

UNITED STATES CITIZENS FIRST and all of us are to be treated equally!!!!!!!!!!!!!! What a concept States Rights is supporting racist. Peace Thomas Spellman [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edward Savage [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

I believe US citizens should be the number one priority of the US Government . DO NOT pass any legalization that would put American lives at risk . The Casey bill would lead to deaths . It is that simple, the "but" argument is simple a political agenda rouse. Preventive care is cost effective , having high standards for the long term ill does cost a lot, but in the richest country in the world it is not impossible.

Why are we not discussing where this high cost of healthcare is going ?

Would some of those dollars be ending up in the lobby process which seems to have damaged congress beyond repair? .

Politics in the US seem to have led us to the Post Truth, era is this a comment on the politicians and the press ?

US Citizens should not be victims of the system.

I am unimpressed by the hype news cycle we now live in. I would appreciate keeping it simple Health Care helps Americans

Yours Sincerely

Edward Savage

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of bruce johnston [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Hearing Date: September 25 2017

Carole H. Johnston

[REDACTED]

If what the *Washington Post* is reporting is true, then the bill just got worse and much more cynical. Larger amounts of money to Maine and Alaska is purely partisan and has absolutely nothing to do with the needs of the country. In other situations this would just be called a bribe. Think of the **entire** country, not just two votes.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stefanie Mathew [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. Please protect every American's essential health benefits, and do not let pre-existing conditions prevent people from getting the healthcare they need.

Thanks,

Stefanie Mathew
Rockville, MD

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jackie Cash-Rolland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

Dear Committee Members,

I have tried to think of at least one good thing I could say about the Cassidy-Graham bill with regards to health care. I can't. Absolutely nothing.

However, I am sure there are people who will think finally, a repeal of the ACA after years and millions of dollars poured into the effort. I am sure that there will be people thrilled with a lovely tax cut too. And of course, the cynical me thinks those big donors, who have been withholding campaign donations until they get their agenda passed, will feel they got their money's worth.

Nonetheless, there will be millions of people who will be hurt by the passage of this bill. People with chronic and life threatening illnesses like cancer would suffer the biggest impact. Actually, you all are pretty aware of that fact. It is no big secret no matter how this bill has been sugar coated. It is still a bitter pill to swallow. When the biggest cuts are to Medicaid, I think of all the children that will be impacted.

Also, I am concerned about the fact that we, the public, do not have any information on the CBO analysis. What is this bill really going to cost in terms of affordable access to health care? Is this going to destabilize the health insurance market? Are junk health insurance policies going to be the norm because people won't be able to afford more comprehensive coverage? If this is such a great bill why are so many organizations such as the AMA, Hospital Association, American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society opposed to it?

Personally, I don't think Nixon administration did the American people any favor in 1973 by allowing a for profit health care industry. Considering the increased number of bankruptcies filed because of medical costs, It has become outrageous.

This bill doesn't nothing to reassure me that people will be able to afford decent health insurance, much less care.

I realize that September 30th deadline is looming for the reconciliation process, but is that the most important rationale for approving this bill? It is time to step back, hold hearings and debates instead of sprinting to a deadline. The Graham-Cassidy bill had better not be the best bill that Congress has to deliver to the American people.

Sincerely

J. Cash-Rolland

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Luz Velez <luzvelez@senate.finance.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Opposition to Graham Cassidy Bill

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Luz Velez <luzvelez@senate.finance.gov>
Date: September 24, 2017 at 8:46:20 PM EDT
To: gchcomments@senate.finance.gov
Subject: **Opposition to Graham Cassidy Bill**

Senate Finance Committee

Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

From: Adrienne Sena

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy act. As the parent of a young adult with autism and other medical issues 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. Imposing this law will upend the insurance and medical fields, and throw millions of citizens off health insurance. From what I've read, not one industry involved in the medical field is in favor of this law.

This bill would have a devastating effect on health care for seniors, children and people with disabilities. It is unconscionable that this bill is even being considered despite the opposition from all 50 Medicaid directors as well as numerous medical associations and the CBO.

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.

Adrienne Sena

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joy H <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

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

Senate Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators,

As you consider this latest effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act, the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, I ask you to vote no on this bill. The citizens of this country rely on you to advocate for them, and to put their interests first. This prospective legislation will do nothing but harm those you are tasked in protecting, and it is imperative that you reject it.

The Affordable Care Act is a vital necessity for my family. My husband, Benjamin, suffered a brain aneurysm rupture in 2008 at 29 years old. Had I not been home to call 911 and perform CPR on him, he would have died. Even so, his chances of survival after such a catastrophic event were not good, and yet by the grace of God, the miracle of modern medicine, and the work of many diligent healthcare providers, he beat the odds.

As you can imagine, the weeks of intensive care, the multiple surgeries and interventional radiology, the specialist consultations, and the months of in-patient and out-patient rehab did not come cheaply. We had amazing health insurance through my husband's employer, and so instead of being bankrupted by the \$500,000 in hospital bills amassed in a four month period, we only had to pay a tiny fraction in copays.

When the ACA became law in 2009, we no longer worried that my husband's brain injury would become a barrier to insurance as a pre-existing condition. He has had to have yearly MRIs to monitor his cerebral arteries, biannual visits with his neurological rehabilitation specialist, and he takes several medications to support his brain function. If we were uninsured, or his brain injury related expenses not covered, we would not have been able to afford his care over the last nine years.

Now we are a family of five and even more in need of access to affordable healthcare. Our youngest children are twins who were born prematurely, required delivery via cesarean section, and needed a higher level of care for their first few days of life. One of our twins required surgery at 10 months old, and the other will need surgery before the year is out. We would be drowning under medical bills if it were not for the protections afforded us by the ACA.

I know that my family's experience is one of millions, that there are medically fragile children who would have never been born but for access to affordable healthcare, and everyday there are people who still have to choose between feeding their family or filling a prescription. As a nurse who worked for nearly 10 years in family practice I have seen the struggles caused by lack of insurance, ridiculously high deductibles, and expensive

copays. I have seen the difference in patient outcomes since the ACA became law, and the lives changed because of access to affordable healthcare.

Senators, I implore you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal and instead work in a bipartisan manner to fix the weak spots of the ACA and preserve healthcare for millions of Americans.

Thank you for your time,

Joy Hammond, [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Rothschild <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Teacher says no to Graham Cassidy

Hello,

I am an early childhood teacher with certification in Massachusetts and Connecticut, and currently reside in Washington DC. We claim to wish to "Leave No Child Behind" and strive for an education system that is among the best in the world. Yet cuts to Medicaid that are part of a rushed bill with details barely released to the Senate let alone the public will have grave effects for schoolchildren. Medicaid allows children to receive speech and language, occupational therapy, and physical therapy services that they need to thrive. This article https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/i-can-see-the-difference-in-her-fear-of-medicaid-cuts-looms-at-school-that-serves-disabled-students/2017/07/22/5d700448-6d62-11e7-96ab-5f38140b38cc_story.html?utm_term=.34a8a16b5a4e describes a school I work with-- we must do the right thing for our children. These children stand to pay the price for our nation's bitter politics.

Respectfully,

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Heilker [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I am a tenured university professor and make \$94,000 a year. Even so, without quality, affordable healthcare, a single illness would have bankrupted my family.

Four years ago, my wife contracted Guillain-Barre Syndrome, an auto-immune response to a virus that left her paralyzed from the neck down and on a respirator for ten days. The medications alone cost \$80,000 in the first four days. She eventually recovered, but the total cost of her hospital stay was \$330,000!!

Any approach to healthcare reform that results in FEWER people being insured is simply unethical.

Hence, we need a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Paul Heilker

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Lynne James [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC Bill

I and my children rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions and affordability is...

I am a single parent. I work for a non-profit and I work with children with multiple handicaps. I have raised my children, paid my taxes and mortgage, and worked every week of my adult life. In my job and in my home I see directly how important good reliable health care is.. My own children both have pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lynne James
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Selmser1 [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Kathleen Selmser1

47 [Redacted] Rd

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Selmser1 [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

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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. Kathleen Selmser1
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Selmser1 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017, 6:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

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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. Kathleen Selmser1
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jaclyn Strube <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Elin, David; Pomerantz, Melodee
Subject: Statement on Graham-Cassidy to SCF
Attachments: Senate Finance statement L Davis.pdf; Ashley OHern Statement.docx; Swick Statement.docx; Statement Submitted by Chaney Kurtz.docx; Lindsay Hansen Statement.pdf; VonRentzell Statement.docx; Statement Submitted by Elise Free.docx; Amanda Sander Statement.docx; Statement Submitted by Amanda Porter.docx; Jaclyn Strube Statement.docx; Jennifer Coghlan Statement.docx; Mary Gillespey Statement.docx; Carol Levine Statement.docx; Sarah Kohl Statement.docx; Susie Rider Statement.docx; Jerry and Kaelan Stone Statement.docx; Statement Submitted by Christa Beeler.docx; Ana Bumgardner Statement.docx; Andrew Strube Statement.docx; Cynthia Ford Statement.docx

To the Senate Finance Committee,

I am submitting the attached statements to your record in opposition of the Graham-Cassidy bill. The attached statements are all from families impacted by cystic fibrosis, a genetic lung disease. The Graham-Cassidy bill fails to protect our community, among many others.

Please consider each statement in your analysis.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn and Andrew Strube, along with 20 parents, grandparents, aunts, and friends of people living with cystic fibrosis

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My personal concerns for health care

I believe we have a duty and obligation, particularly as the wealthiest country in the world, to provide all our citizens with access to affordable, quality healthcare. I believe the special interests and businesses gain far too much from healthcare, at the expense of those who need to receive it or even those directly providing it these days (i.e., doctors, nurses.) I support healthcare reform, but nothing like what has been presented over the past 9 months by Republicans. The regulations, processes, and systems set up by the ACA should have been, and should be, tweaked and fixed. Rather they've been dealt severe blows by the Trump administration and purposely left to wither and they hope die, all in the cause (I believe) to remove laws that bear a nickname which happens to be that of the last president of our country. Our senators and congress persons have a duty and obligation to do what is right for the American people, not what is in their best interest.

For me personally I am a nearly 50 year old woman who has held a job since I was 12 years old. I currently work part time as I am married to a fire fighter who has a crazy schedule, and we have a son who is in middle school. We are upper middle class. Unfortunately I am real risk for going through a divorce in the near future, and I find myself for the first time staring down the possibility that I may not have access to quality, affordable, healthcare. Just as I am hitting the age when my good health is likely to start needing attention. It is frightening. And feels very unfair considering I have always contributed to the economy, have always paid my taxes, have always lived within my means, do not carry any debt other than my home mortgage, have always made charitable donations. It is not fair. Healthcare should not depend on how wealthy you are, and it should be UNTETHERED from employment. There are times in my life where I considered starting a new business but the prospect of health insurance was so scary I didn't think twice about it. That should not be. I believe it also puts women at an unfair advantage, as women are more likely to have lower paying jobs or work part time to support their families.

Graham-Cassidy is a travesty. The process bringing Graham-Cassidy to vote is offensive. The only way forward is a true and honest, respectful bi-partisan approach.

Thank you,
--Heather Cochrane, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Zatlin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

Please do not repeal The ACA. This bill has helped me get health insurance in the individual market. I do not get a subsidy, but am 63 years old and pretty healthy, but anyone my age has pre existing conditions. Healthcare can be provided in a country as wealthy as this one. Fix the ACA. Do not gut Medicaid. This covers one out of five people in this country. Why? We don't have a decent minimum wage. Work together. Represents 1/6 of the economy. Do not pass this mean spirited badly thought out bill before the Senate. Shame on anyone who thinks this is a good idea.

Jane Zatlin
New York and Ct.

--

Jane Zatlin

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KELLY FAULKNER <kelly.faulkner@congress.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

How can we say we are the leaders of the world if we are not leading? How can we so easily toss our fellows Americans aside with a bill like this? Please do the right thing. Figure out how to make the ACA better and for it to work for all! I have a dear friend that has a child fighting an immune disease. If this bill passes. it will be a death sentence for her.

Do the right thing!

Sincerely,
Kelly Faulkner
Norfolk, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristin Allin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham Cassidy!

These attempt to repeal the ACA are a death sentence. I am a kidney donor to my father who not only needed a kidney, he takes life saving anti-rejection medicine. The ACA has saved us by making his medication affordable and allowing him to have insurance.

To repeal ACA makes no sense! We have a foundation to build on. This must be done in a bi-partisan way.

Graham Cassidy has NO support from major medical groups. Why is this even being considered? You are literally sentencing people to death.

Give us a bi-partisan way to make the ACA better. NO on repeal! NO on Graham-Cassidy!

Kristin
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KimDotson [redacted] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

I am writing to object the newest iteration of an attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act without a replacement. Healthcare, should be a basic right, but if you are of a mind that considers it a privilege earned through hard work, consider this:

In KY, as with most other states that took advantage of the Medicaid expansion, more than 70% of the individuals receiving Medicaid are hardworking adults working multiple jobs in order to provide for themselves and their families. Employees and states often have to be encouraged by the basic protections that the federal government enacts to ensure their employees and citizens can get the healthcare they need to stay in the workforce.

Th ACA should be improved, not replaced with a hail mary bill that deprives millions of insurance, reduces aid to those in need of affordable health care and takes away protections from those with pre-existing conditions. This is not the right step.

Sincerely,

Kim Griswold Dotson
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: paul o'dell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee, I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. [Your name] [City, State]Paul O'Dell Lamar Mo.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angie Vaughn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

[Angie Vaughn]
[Nashville, TN]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Glenda G. Gordon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

I am one of the unfortunate Americans who lives in a state (Texas) which did not expand Medicaid so I do not have healthcare nor will I have healthcare until I turn 65---if I live that long. I have numerous health problems, but unless my government decides that ALL Americans deserve healthcare and passes a universal healthcare bill, I will suffer or die without ever being able to afford to see a doctor in the richest country on earth (thanks GOP). While I am unable to afford medical insurance under the AHCA, I do not want to see those who can afford the insurance to be stripped of that life saving care, so I beg you to VOTE NO on the Graham-Cassidy senate bill. In my honest opinion, anyone who votes in favor of this bill can rightly be called a serial murderer, and he/she should be removed from office for causing millions and millions of deaths of innocent Americans. Thank you.

Glenda Gordon
Friendswood, Texas

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Kerns [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do your jobs and fix the ACA, for everyone's sake

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I'm sure you are receiving a lot of comments about the Cassidy-Graham bill.

Healthcare and health insurance in America are too expensive and too complicated. Insurance executives make millions and I struggle to pay the \$1,200 insurance premium every month for coverage for my husband and I.

We are both self-employed. We get no subsidy.

I have an auto-immune disease. Reports of up to \$26,000 surcharges for arthritis and auto-immune diseases scare me. It would make it absolutely IMPOSSIBLE that we would be able to afford that.

FIX the ACA. Don't repeal; don't replace. Do your jobs and fix it.

Respectfully,

Anne C. Kerns
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nora Handler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Durbin, Dick (Durbin); Info (Duckworth)
Subject: Save our healthcare

Many of my family members have preexisting conditions. My 63 year old brother on the Autism Spectrum relies on Medicaid. Please don't vote yes on the cruel health care bill. Nora Handler Chicago

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott Condra <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Senators,

As far as anyone understands this bill, it seems to be a reckless act motivated not by the needs of the people, but by the theater of politics. My Senator, Mitch McConnell, has been deaf to the needs of his constituency for years, but I urge the rest of you to remember the lives that this bill will impact. Please do not allow the Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill to pass.

Thank you for your time.

Yours in Christ,
Scott Condra

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie May-Chibani [mailto:leslie.chibani@mmh.com] [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stand up for ACA

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill that would dump America's health care bill into the laps of the states. This is literally passing the buck to the states, leaving them to sort through the broken pieces of our health care system. Graham-Cassidy will cost our state \$3.5 billion in lost federal revenues over a six year period beginning in 2020. Our Medicaid program will have to be significantly cut back, since we were an expansion state under the ACA. Poor people should not be targeted in any health care reform. "Revise and Restore" the Affordable Care Act!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Say NO to the Graham Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern;
I oppose the Graham Cassidy Bill. Thank you. Amy Gelb

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Val Hiller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: re: GrahamCassidy health bill

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to urge members that a vote for this health bill is a vote against millions of Americans. I'm low income & elderly, I am on oxygen and I would not be alive without the ACA. I work part-time, I pay taxes and I vote. Please don't take away my life and millions of others to win a vote for the party, is not a win for the people.

Thank you

Valerie

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Ethington <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Deborah Ethington
E. [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dannette Cat [REDACTED]@wi rr.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy-Johnson-Heller bill which will cut Medicaid, impose Medicaid per capita caps, and weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions.

I have a preexisting condition.....a brain tumor and thyroid cancer and the result of treatments is many other medical issues.....if you weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions it would be devastating to families. I also have an adult daughter with Williams Syndrome and she relies on Medicaid services to be part of our community and to continue living at home with us, where she belongs. She receives funding from IRIS program and also relies on the Title 19 for health care because she is only able to work 8 hours a week and would NOT be able to afford any health care purchases.



I ask you to please vote NO! Save our family!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Hollenbeck [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not repeal the ACA!

The Affordable Care Act may not be perfect, but we cannot afford to repeal or dismantle it and again leave thousands of families without health insurance. My stepdaughter's company is small enough that they do not offer a health insurance plan. Now the company that provides the individual policy she has to cover her and her 2 children is withdrawing from the market. We don't know what options she is going to have. I myself am fortunate enough to work for a company that does offer insurance, and am able to provide coverage for my husband. But he has had a heart attack, skin cancer and back surgery, and I shudder to think what it would cost if we had to insure him separately, or if we could even find insurance for him. My stepson had colon cancer. Almost everyone I know has some sort of pre-existing condition and worries about whether they can even take a chance on changing jobs because of the impact on their insurance. I urge you to find a way to maintain the core of the ACA and work together in a bipartisan way to improve the flaws.

Thank you for your consideration.

Carol Hollenbeck

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Babs Kerns [mailto:bkerns@comcast.net]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Babs Kerns
Quakertown, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: (null) (null) [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy

>
> Dear Senators,
>
> I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill being considered today. This bill would affect a lot of people I personally know who have various pre-existing conditions. They would likely die earlier of their illnesses if this bill passes and makes it impossible for them to get treatment at a reasonable price. America is a rich country that can afford to take care of all her people, and we must do that. History will judge you and all of us harshly if you take away essential healthcare from the most vulnerable of our citizens.
>
> Thank you, and please vote against Graham Cassidy.
>
> Prabha Iyer
> [REDACTED]
> [REDACTED]
>
>
> Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Borstein <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

I am a cancer survivor and have other medical conditions as well. Thanks to the ACA, I have been able to purchase medical insurance despite my pre-existing conditions. Under Graham-Cassidy, insurance availability for Americans with pre-existing conditions is not assured. Graham-Cassidy will also severely gut the Medicaid program which provides a medical safety net for many Americans.

Please use normal order and a bipartisan process to develop improvements to the ACA, rather than repeal. Cost containment for medical care is especially needed.

Thank you.

Debra Jan Borstein

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sunil <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill Comments

I suggest an alternative simple plan consisting of the two steps listed below to stabilize all healthcare plans in the USA including Obamacare.

Step 1: Offer 1% Medicare as the primary insurance for all existing Healthcare plans in the USA including Obamacare plans.

Step 2: Once Step 1 is implemented, make all existing Healthcare plans as Secondary plans to the Primary plan (1% Medicare).

Key advantages of this approach are listed below:

- a) With 320 million insured in the 1 % Medicare Primary plan, Medicare can negotiate the best rates for services provided by Healthcare providers, hence containing Healthcare costs. Also Healthcare providers will not charge any insured more than the Medicare approved rates.
- b) Medicare (government) will pick just 1% of the Healthcare cost, hence minimum government involvement.
- c) Since Medicare is national, the 1% Medicare plan will provide nationwide coverage thus providing consistent services to insured across state lines.
- d) Secondary plans will pay upto 99% of the total healthcare cost. Several different Secondary plans can be offered with varying degrees of cost sharing by insured. Also plans can be offered that cover more than what Medicare will cover.
- e) Insurance companies will be required to offer the secondary plans without any pre-existing condition restriction. Because of the large pool of insured, they can then offer competitive plans across all insured groups including individuals.
- f) This should get bipartisan support as it will stabilize Obamacare and also stabilize Medicare into the future through cost containment.

Sunil Wadhwa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: es kellon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: "graham-Cassidy"

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the absence of a thoughtful effort to produce an improvement to the nation's health care, one can only conclude that Republicans have given up all expectation of good governance in favor of petty hatred and childishness. Only those Republicans who stand up for the good of the country against their poisoned party will be remembered with respect.

Sue Kellon
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy sears <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

Dear Senate,

This bill is a disaster. It will cause many to lose coverage and the fact that it leaves out the basic healthcare is wrong. I have worked in the medical field for ten years and I have seen the positive changes that the ACA has made for many people. Lives have been saved because of the passage of the ACA. The Graham/Cassidy will set us back as a country and kill many. Those who depend on Medicare for their insurance need that extra help. They are our children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, and spouses. Please do not pass this bill.

Yours Truly,

Cathy Sears

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Cannamela <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

All Americans should have 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. HEALTHCARE FOR ALL.

Laura Cannamela
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Valerie Noble [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health

DO NOT TAKE AWAY HEALTHCARE FROM MILLIONS OF AMERICANS!

How about you all give yours up so we can ALL be equal. Seems you voted yourselves in a very nice package. How disgusting. Take care of your fellow Americans!

DO THE RIGHT THING AND CHIOSE YOUR COUNTRY IVER
YOUR PARTY!

VNoble RN

--

Valerie S, Noble

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Craig Paull [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please do not pass this horrible bill that has not even been scored by the CBO, has not had any debate or discussion, because you are trying to fool the American people, but we will not be fooled. Those that are not paying attention, will, when their fellow citizens loose their coverage and die.

This is unacceptable! Congressional people like to throw around their godliness, but unless your god is the almighty dollar, you are not acting like any person of good conscious. Government is about compromise and find solutions that don't necessarily make anyone 100% happy, but provide the greatest good.

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

Sincerely,

Craig Paull
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: (null) (null) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill being considered today. This bill would affect a lot of people I personally know who have various pre-existing conditions. They would likely die earlier of their illnesses if this bill passes and makes it impossible for them to get treatment at a reasonable price. America is a rich country that can afford to take care of all her people, and we must do that. History will judge you and all of us harshly if you take away essential healthcare from the most vulnerable of our citizens.

Thank you, and please vote against Graham Cassidy.

Prabha Iyer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Kramer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments

This is not a bill that protects those with pre-existing conditions, or the poor (mostly women and children), or the elderly, and certainly not the disabled.

Not all states will not protect and provide coverage. They will eliminate essential conditions. Many families will suffer. This is why we need federal protections, not state by state rulings.

We want health care that does not price people out of the market. Available does not mean accessible.

We want bi-partisanship fixes to ACA. We do want to eliminate ACA.

All of the health industry and insurance companies and the majority of the American people are against Graham-Cassidy...a bill that is misguided and heartless. It is being promoted by lies. It is political malpractice to move this bill forward.

I have a 28 yo daughter with a disability, and I taught physicians. I see this from both sides. Please drop G-C!

Kathryn Kramer

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzan [REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Suzan Robbins
Mt Holly NJ
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Greenan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy healthcare

Dear Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the GrahamCassidy bill which would throw millions of people off much needed healthcare. Instead, I support a bipartisan effort to create a bill which is fair to everyone. This is vital to our country and to our economy in the long run. The current proposed bill up for consideration is inhumane. We need a thoughtful, deliberate bipartisan process. Let's improve the ACA. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Pat Greenan
Lafayette, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helene Berlin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I strongly oppose Graham-Cassidy

The Graham-Cassidy proposal will result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage, decrease access to affordable coverage and care, undermine protections for those with preexisting conditions, and threaten Medicaid coverage for the elderly in nursing homes. **This proposal MUST be fully and adequately examined by the Congressional Budget Office before it is brought to a vote.** Republican Senators have admitted they just want to pass a bill regardless of what it contains or its affect on our citizens. Doctors, hospitals, and many, many leading medical and health organizations strongly oppose this bill.

My parents both worked in blue collar jobs from age 18 to 65, living frugally and expecting that their savings and Social Security payments would be enough to support them in retirement, but at ages 97 and 99 they required nursing home care that completely wiped out their savings within a year. My mother had advanced dementia and my father had a severe heart condition. I don't know what they would have done without Medicaid.

Graham-Cassidy is heartless and will inflict unnecessary hardship on many millions of Americans. I resent and oppose this blatant attempt to destroy our health care system in order to score political points.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle Masters <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I implore you to reject Graham-Cassidy. While there are some structural problems to be dealt with in regards to the ACA, this is clearly not a viable solution. It reeks of desperation to fulfill a common conservative promise with no regard as to whether or not the bill proposed is of any actual quality. Given the immense backlash from medical professionals and organizations, and given its terribly low approval ratings (24% approve, and most want the bill properly scored), it's clear that this bill would only be to the detriment of vulnerable Americans – from children to the elderly to the disabled – who deserve a country where our elected officials legitimately look out for the best interests of their constituents. What professionalism is there in rushing to vote on a bill before a proper CBO score can be made? Given that a sixth of the economy and every American life is wrapped up in this, shouldn't there be time spent deliberating, debating, and reshaping until the result is of substantial quality?

I have Cystic Fibrosis. My ability to live normally – and my ability to be alive at all – is dependent on my access to consistent and affordable care. I'd have to be a millionaire to foot the costs sans insurance. Perhaps due to a lack of regulation on drug pricing, my medication costs go upwards of \$40,000 per month. Allowing *any* state to place caps on coverage or price people out of care is abhorrent and inhumane. While the makers of this bill may argue that they have put safeguards against it, a basic statement that 'adequate and affordable' coverage must be maintained is too vague and undefined to truly protect anyone, especially when the same legislation allows states to apply for waivers on protections and increase premiums. There's also the matter that states will be limited in their financial resources and time frames for implementation.

Lawmaking of this sort should not be about 'winning,' and it certainly shouldn't be about monetary incentives. First and foremost, it should be about the welfare of the people.

Sincerely,
Michelle Masters, Albany NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Diaz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My dad has type 1 diabetes, and he relies on affordable coverage to manage a disease he was born with. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sarah Diaz

Indianapolis, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy On The Cloud <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham "health care" bill

I strongly oppose the Graham health care bill. The ACA saved my life! Without it I would not have survived breast cancer. My daughter has diabetes- a pre-existing condition and no insurance. Inconsistent medical care was killing her - now she has insurance and is starting to recover her health. For the first time in years she is holding down a full time job. Don't take the advances we have made. The ACA is not perfect but it could be a premier program with bipartisan support! We did not send you to Congress to kill off the American public!!!

Wendy, running wild in the world!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: rachel castello-dunn <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

As a citizen, Christian, and proud customer of ACA healthcare, I strongly oppose this bill. Put humanity above base. Thank you.

--

Rachel at [REDACTED]

“Fill your paper with the breathings of your heart.”— William Wordsworth

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Conroy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

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] 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.

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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
Portland, Oregon

--
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>

--
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: SHERRILL RUSHMAN [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Regarding Affordable Care Act

Dear Senate,

I Sherrill Rushman have had paranoid schizephrenia since I was 17 in 1971. I received medicaid services from 1989 to 2003. Without it I would not of gotten well enough through community mental health services paid by medicaid to single parent 3 sons that are all college gradutes. I wouldn't of graduated with a degree in Human Resources and Training in 1991. I wouldn't of been able to get well enough to work full time from 1996-to present. Do not take medicaid away from people with disabilities or the senior community. Also I have a pre-existing condition. Don't do anything with insurance that would hurt me have health insurance because without it I can't be there for my 3 sons, their wives and 6 grandchildren. I would need to be hospitalized and not be able to work where I give HOPE through recovery education to people with disabilities and all that would end if you change things with how things are now with insurance and pre-existing conditions!!

Thank You for LISTENING!!

Sherrill Marie Rushman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Padma Kuppa <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. More than 17 years ago, I had two surgeries on my left leg and as a result I have had ongoing issues with my back and right leg. While I work hard to keep myself physically fit, I do not want this to be treated as a pre-existing condition and denied health care if something were to happen in the future. Many in my family have been affected by cancer and fortunately several are in remission. I do not want them to be denied health care as a result of a pre-existing condition.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I understand that the ACA has its challenges, but repealing it will put our country and the people who live in it in even worse shape.

Sincerely,
Padma Kuppa
Troy, Michigan

[REDACTED]@kinghenti/
[REDACTED].org
[REDACTED].com
[REDACTED].org
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: june schecter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham-cassidy

REJECT GRAHAM-CASSIDY it is inhuman and unamerican, shame shame shame.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim Callis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Kim Callis
Lanoka Harbor, New Jersey

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M. Norris [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submit the following for public testimony in Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.
Importance: High

Dear Sirs:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability is: without affordable health insurance that the ACA makes possible, my son would not be able to work at his profession. The insurance offered through his employer is unaffordable. He has two children who are covered through their mother's employment. He needs affordable health insurance to be able to continue to support his family. Our family would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you

Ms. Makeda Norris
Minneapolis MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Dimick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Emily Kerley
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

My name is Emily Kerley. My address is 3940 Herman Sipe Road Conover, NC 28613. I am a teacher. My husband and I have a five year old child with Non-verbal autism and a one and half year old who needs braces for his legs due to delays in walking on his own. Our daughter receives 16 hours a week of Applied Behavioral Analysis Therapy. Speech Therapy 2X a week for 30 minutes and Occupational Therapy 2X a week for one hour. This is in addition to services offered outside of school. Our family pays for one of the Occupational Sessions a week @ \$70 a week or \$3,360 a year.

Cost per Year:

\$5,750 a year for Speech Therapy (Medicaid Covers Total Amount)

\$6,720 a year for Occupational Therapy (Medicaid Covers \$3,360)

Since we only do about half the allotted hours of ABA Therapy this amounts to \$20,000=\$25,000 a year for ABA Therapy (Medicaid Covers Total Amount)

Medicaid Coverage for Therapies amounts to \$29,110-\$34,110 a year.

Medicaid is our daughters life line to therapy services. Our daughter needs these services in order to learn how to communicate using a communication device to push pictures and have voice output to say the words of the item that she wants or needs. Due to her receptive and expressive delays in communication this is vital as frustration in this area of her development leads to self harming behaviors of biting and hitting.

Recently we had a two month gap in ABA services. This gap in services lead to our daughter biting Mom. ABA services help our daughter with the mental health aspect of having autism and learning processes for behavior and how to self regulate these behaviors. This bill would be detrimental to my child who although diagnosed at Age 5 with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Sensory Integration Dysfunction and Global Delays may be considered to have a "Pre-existing Condition."

I worry every day about our daughter. We are told that the waiting list for innovations unmet registry of needs is 8-10 years. She may be 15 before she has access to additional vital resources such as a CAP worker, a Care Coordinator and Long Term Residential Care once I pass away. In the mean time I do not have a care coordinator to help me coordinate therapies and medical appointments and have to do this all on my own as I research and get information from Partners Behavioral Health. The following scenarios could happen if Medicaid services were left up to the state. If North Carolina's funds become scarcer the state may have the option of not providing Occupational or Speech Services to my child. Coverage for intensive behavior services (Applied Behavioral Analysis) for children under medicaid could also end. My child's therapies are not only critical to her development, they are also critical to her mental health and our entire family's mental health and well being.

If my daughter lost her medicaid therapy services this teacher who makes \$46,100 prior to taxes and deductions would have to figure out how to support a family of four off of \$11,990 a year. The reality would be less as we would have to pay the cost for my daughter to see her Developmental and Behavioral Specialist. My husband is a current college student taking classes in person and online during the morning and then taking our daughter to therapies 19 hours a week during the day time after she attends school a little more than half the day. We do not have access to a CAP worker to take our daughter to therapies which makes it impossible for my husband to work a full time job. Our son also receives one hour a week of Physical Therap due to his delays in walking and was just fitted for braces for his legs. Take an

additional \$1,000 for the amount for braces and Dental work our daughter needs that will cost close to \$5,00 and I'm left with \$5,000-\$6,000 to support a family of four for the rest of the year if our medicaid were effected.

This is our daughter's life and her mental health and an entire families mental health in your hands as these vital supports are needed for our daughter and also our son. Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Please oppose bills that make cuts to Medicaid. Please work in bipartisan ways to improve access to health care, including autism services and medicaid.

Thank you for Your Time,
Emily Kerley

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca B. Torrey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing, September 25, 2017
Attachments: Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing.docx

To: Senate Finance Committee:

Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

From: Rebecca B. Torrey, [REDACTED]

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill and to urge you to vote against it.

In 2011, my 23 year old son, a graduate of Princeton University, was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. He was gravely ill and was hospitalized three times with severe and debilitating symptoms. The symptoms of his illness affected his ability to work, to maintain relationships, and to realize his potential in the world. It was devastating for him and for his family. He did not ask for this illness any more than one would ask for brain cancer or a brain injury. Yet it happened to him and so he dealt with it. This is a chronic illness that will not go away.

Today, 6 years later, with the help of good medical care and medications, he is in graduate school studying to be a Christian minister. It has not been easy to manage this illness, and it requires effort and commitment on his part every single day. Access to good doctors and medicines has been critical to his recovery.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill allows states to drop the requirement to cover essential health benefits which include mental health benefits and coverage for pre-existing conditions. These provisions would put access to quality health care for my son at grave risk, with potentially devastating effects on his life and on his ours.

My son is one of millions who suffer from mental illnesses that they did not ask for and whose health care would be compromised under this bill. Please vote against this bill and against any bill that does not include mental health parity and coverage for essential health benefits.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephen Joseph [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

I am writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

My family and I all depend on quality, affordable health care, including the continuation of coverage for pre-existing conditions.

In addition, as a psychotherapist, I am acutely aware of the importance of coverage for behavioral health treatment. My suicidal patients, and those with severe eating disorders, would be negatively impacted if outpatient and inpatient treatment for psychological issues were to be curtailed. I also know that many of my patients would have difficulty paying for insurance if state block grants were decreased or disappeared.

Please rule against the Graham-Cassidy Bill, and then work on a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA.

Thanks you
Stephen Joseph
[REDACTED]
--

Best,
Steve

Stephen Joseph, MA, LMHC

Psychotherapist
Licensed Mental Health Counselor
Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) Practitioner/Trainer

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

*Please note: Email is not a secure form of communication and confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: one sister's story

To the Senate Finance Committee:

My sister Miriam depends on Medicaid, Medicare, and SSDI for long-term care and, frankly, for her life. She had a brain tumor when she was 11, and thirty years later, she's showing more effects of her treatment. She was given a 30% chance of survival, so people like her are rare, and there's not a lot of medical history to say what's going to happen to her. We do know she's in the beginning stages of dementia, and she needs to have people around her all the time because she can fall easily and she needs help with the bathroom. She needs a walker, and often a wheelchair, to get around, and takes medication to keep seizures under control. She lives in a phenomenal group home and goes to a day program to keep her as independent and mobile as possible for as long as possible. Caring for her does indeed take a village, and it also takes a lot of money. Graham-Cassidy would harm her. Do not pass this.

Regards,
Rebecca Harris
Cambridge, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda Gaston <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: GC Bill

Dear Sirs/Ma'ams-

Please do not allow the Graham-Cassidy (GC) bill go forward for a vote. I understand we in the public have not seen the full text, but the points I've seen are enough to know it would be disastrous for many, including members of my family.

I am a hospice nurse & see patients everyday that would suffer greatly from the massive medicaid cuts. I've worked in healthcare for 30 years and know that bill would destroy people's lives. We are the only developed nation whose people go into bankruptcy over medical bills & that is shameful.

When every medical association comes out against a HC bill that should be a warning to you that it should be withdrawn & it's time to go back to the drawing board. The state heads of medicaid are telling you it's not workable in its current form. Insurance companies are even telling you it won't work.

The American people are getting the message it's more important that a policy of the previous president be destroyed for the principle, than that Americans get healthcare that is useful & affordable. Is that the message you want our citizens to get from the government charged with our protection & care?

There has been much chaos with the government this year and Americans are getting mixed messages. But when it comes to our health & wellbeing, our lives- and more importantly the lives of our children, our families. You do not want to send a mixed message, you want it to be clear!!

Nothing matters more than the people that make up this great country. We need a healthcare bill that really works for everyone- and GC isn't it. Now is the time for Reps & Dems to work together- fix the ACA or come up with something new. But work together, enough of the bipartisan fighting. Do it right this time!! Please, the citizens of our great country deserve the best you can do!

Thank you!

AB, RN

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Grete Sandberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Grete Sandberg
Subject: Health Care

The Affordable Care Act needs to stay in place. There is no time nor reason not to hold on to this, - and improve, rather than trash!.

Do remember, and have in mind, that all developed countries have as good or better health services, on all levels..These are free for the most part, and have minimal fees - if any. The phenomenon of "pre- existing...." does not enter the picture at all. Every one gets the care they can reasonably be provided. Face lifts are not covered :-)

Get a life! And let live, with opportunity to receive good health care for all. Any thing less is a disgrace !!

Sincerely, Grete Sandberg,
Kearney, NE

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Francisco [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy health care bill.

Committee members,

While I recognize many of you want to repeal the ACA. I believe a better solution can be found by going through "regular order" and working to modify the ACA.

How is it good governance to remove more than 30 million from access to health care? All the while you yourselves are exempt.

How is it good governance to remove pre-existing conditions protections?

How is it good governance to penalize those over 50 by adding tremendous increases in cost just when incomes are beginning to decrease?

How is it good governance to remove coverage for veterans or their families?

How is it good governance to pass a bill that is opposed by the healthcare industry, insurance industries and all 50 states Medicaid directors?

How in the world is it good governance not to have the CBO score before voting?

Any logical person can see this is not a positive approach to governance.

For the good of our country and citizens please please please try to walk in the shoes of those impacted by your decisions.

Please reconsider your approach. Please stop the ugly partisanship by allowing Senators Murray and Alexander to continue the work they were doing. There is always a place for compromise.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Barbara Francisco
Proud Registered Voter
Proud American

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia D. Longley [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Cynthia Longley Richards
Millburn, NJ

Cynthia Longley Richards
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Pitre [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid

Please oppose the Senate bill. If you vote for it, you will be voting against the health of my nephew and cousin who has special health care needs. So many people rely on Medicaid, please show us that you support us by voting NO on this bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Annette Reynolds <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill 2.0

Dear Senators,

I am very disappointed in the ongoing efforts to advocate for the Graham Cassidy health care bill, suggesting it will prevent higher costs and bankruptcies for Americans while maintaining adequate coverage. A vast majority of medical, insurance, and patient advocacy groups have expressed grave concerns about how it will affect women, children, seniors, the poor and disabled, contrary to statements by members of Congress. However, without a CBO score, we can't know the real costs and benefits of this massively impactful legislation.

A particular concern of mine is the loosening of the protections for pre-existing conditions. Three out of four members of my family will be directly affected by this provision due to prior illness and accidents. The predicted costs for our coverage will effectively price us out of the market for healthcare or cause us to go bankrupt. As seniors, my husband and I would endure a double whammy through no fault of our own. In addition, my mother-in-law suffers from dementia and depends on Medicaid for her housing and healthcare. She requires 24 hour a day supervision in a secured facility we simply cannot afford to provide.

There is no excuse for the rushed, partisan manner in which this massive and complex issue is being handled in the Senate. If it was truly good for Americans it could stand up to scrutiny and debate and Senators wouldn't have to be bribed for their support. Accusing your opponents of politicizing the process is the height of hypocrisy. The GOP politicized the process when they shut down the bipartisan committee that was making substantive progress because of a self-imposed deadline and unwillingness to compromise.

While I agree we need genuine health care reform – this approach is not the way to do it. Any smart business owner knows you need to have all the major stakeholders at the table willing to negotiate in good faith to achieve fair, equitable, cost effective change. I'm assuming that's the goal here. We can do it. But not unless the Senate GOP stops stubbornly showing they are more accountable to their party and wealthy donors than to the people who elected them.

I'm requesting a return to regular order in the Senate and a commitment to bipartisan efforts to stabilize and fix the ACA. As Americans, we need to protect the most vulnerable in our country and ensure access to adequate and affordable health care for all. This is not a game. Stop treating it like one.

Sincerely,

Annette Reynolds
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: S. Horvik [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I'm writing today with hope in my heart that you will see how very much this bill would directly harm my family and would cause the small business I work for to close shop.

I work for a Minnesota-based entrepreneur, the kind of small business that is the life blood of America, and our company is too small to qualify for group plans. As NPR reported just 2 days ago, this bill is already taking a toll on our ability to hire.

It was only because of the ACA that I was able to take this chance to work for this small business last year. The plan that I have in Minnesota is even better than the small group plans that would be available to us if we were to grow, however this bill will destroy my state's ability to continue to offer my plan. It will also destroy my bosses ability to continue to keep operating, and **he will have to close his business if we lose the ACA.**

Before the ACA and my freedom to choose my employer, and even where we lived, was limited by healthcare insurance benefit offerings.

On a more personal level this bill is also dangerous to our lives. My friend lost a son because he could not afford medication. **People die when they are too poor to afford medical care.**

Our family has been touched in a number of ways, like most American families, by serious and persistent illnesses. We have fought to live, and because of the exceptional medical care we were able to access we survived. Cancer. Rape. Stroke. Brain Injuries. Heart Attacks.

For some of us, the battles are not over, and we continue to fight to live. Access to medical care is critical, and without the ACA, some of us will lose that access and will lose that coverage. **Without coverage, even if we had the time and energy to do fundraising, we would never come up with the money to pay for those treatments.**

Some of us have already surpassed what insurance companies think our lives are worth and their death panels would again have the freedom to deny us further life-saving care (those old "lifetime maximums" that the ACA stopped).

I have numerous family and friends in countries all over the globe - Canada, England, Norway, France, Spain - they all have health care they love and they don't have to pay half their income each year to an insurance company that will do nothing but fight against covering them should they become ill. **They do pay a little more in taxes, however, those taxes are far less than what we pay for a plan, co-pays, deductibles.**

We are not the kind of people who believe that if you are poor and unable to afford care that you should suffer and die. I will never believe that as a people that is who Americans are.

Please vote no.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Right to Life

The Declaration of Independence tells us that governments are created to protect our unalienable Right to Life. Legislation that takes away a person's ability to access affordable health care could well and truly end their life. If you cannot see the human side of this debate, perhaps the economic side would appeal to you. Healthy citizens are happier, more productive, more prosperous, and will reduce the overall costs of health care when they are able to receive care and medicines when needed. Fix the ACA and Listen to the people of this country.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Petronila Esther Mandeno [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please, keep the ACA

Hello,

I am writing to object in the strongest way possible to the proposed Graham Cassidy bill. Clearly, the ACA is not perfect, but it has resulted in millions more Americans becoming insured over its lifetime. I am one of those Americans.

Due to the ACA, my husband and I can rely on affordable health care. Earlier this summer, my husband experienced a terrible accident with a router (a power tool for carving wood). He was able to go visit the emergency room, receiving over 30 stitches in his right hand. Though the bill was over \$2,500, we only paid a modest \$350 as part of our share. An amount we could easily pay (and did!). Had we not the policy we currently have, we would have had to pay the full amount, burdening us with a medical bill for the rest of the year.

This is my particular story but I represent millions of other Americans in similar situations. Can you guarantee the American people that we will be better off if Graham Cassidy passes? Can you guarantee that those of us with pre-existing conditions will continue to receive life-saving care?

If you cannot honestly guarantee this, do not move forward with this bill. We have a right to be heard. This bill has been opposed by most major medical and disease/condition advocate organizations and many state governors. Please, please do not pass Graham Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Petronila Esther Mandeno
Rohnert Park, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham Cassidy

Dear esteemed members of the committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. One of my brothers was born with a combination of autism and mental retardation; another was born with Down's Syndrome and profound physical defects, including the absence of a pulmonary artery. Before his surgery to place a stent, when he started to laugh or to cry, he would quietly pass out and turn blue. Without proper health insurance, my parents would have been bankrupted in very short order as they attempted to care for my brothers, and all of our lives would have pulled into the depths of poverty. Additionally, my former wife fought aggressive cancer; it is only because she had access to health care that they were able to do so without declaring bankruptcy. The ACA kept me afloat during a period of personal unemployment.

I would keenly like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to repair the Affordable Care Act, to work together to genuinely improve health insurance affordability and accessibility for the American people. I would like to see you stop trying to score points off of one another and actually serve the constituents who voted you into office. This should always be about public service and representing all americans not the just the biggest donors.

Thank you,

Michael Powers
Buffalo, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janice Burns [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

September 25, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Finance

Rm. SD-219

Dirksen Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 205110

Submitted by:

Janice Burns
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. I am writing today to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. I cannot support legislation that would jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths.

I am a resident of Cheektowaga, NY, in close proximity to Buffalo (one of the poorest cities in the country) and I care about this issue because... the people in my neighborhood and those that I love will be negatively affected.

My prevention agency, ECCPASA, is concerned about this bill because.... Those our agency serves may lose their health care as well!

I am opposed to this bill because:

- States could waive the requirement that private plans offer substance use disorders treatment. This could return us to the tragic situation before the ACA when more than one third of people with private insurance did not have coverage for addiction services and supports.
- People with pre-existing conditions would be priced out of coverage for any illness, including people with substance use disorders who could face an additional \$20,000/year on top of existing premium costs.

- The bill would disproportionately harm communities of color and others whose access to coverage and treatment is already restricted.
- The end to Medicaid expansion would leave millions of low-income consumers without health care coverage or access to life-saving addiction treatment.
- A \$4 trillion reduction in federal funding to states for health coverage over the next 20 years would devastate state budgets and put pressure on states to cut services.

I want to reiterate my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal and we thank you for hearing my concerns.

Sincerely,

Janice Burns

Janice Burns, MS.Ed, CPP

[Redacted]
[Redacted] m
[Redacted] for the Prevention of
[Redacted] Alcohol and Substance Abuse
[Redacted] Ave.
[Redacted] NY 14216
[Redacted]

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan Waters <meganwaters@...m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do no harm / make it better, not worse. True for Health Care and Bills About It.

Dear Members of the Senate:

The health care bill before the Senate this week is actually worse than the July bill. It falls considerably further from what the nation needs and what the senators drafting it have promised --- we need an improvement on the affordable care act that actually is an improvement. Cassidy promised that he would make sure that people with pre-existing conditions were covered.

Pricing something so high that only 1% or 2% of people could possibly afford the premiums is not the same as covering pre-existing conditions.

I am at the cancer center today with my cousin who has metastasized cancer.

This is personal.

If forced to pay the kind of premiums that will exist for people with his condition, he will be unable to do so and will simply have to stop receiving medical treatment.

I'm writing for him, I'm writing for me, and I'm writing for the 30 million people who will lose coverage if this new bill is passed.

Most importantly, I'm writing for our nation.

We are better than this.

First off, we have to be smarter than this.

We have to be able to find a more compassionate way to deliver efficient good care to our people. Many other countries do. A bit of American ingenuity should get us where we need to get.

And that brings me to the second point.

Not only do I believe are smarter enough to write a bill better than the one being put forward this week, I believe that we are more decent as a people than to accept a bill like this. I believe it is cruel and mean spirited to take health coverage away from millions of Americans. That level of disregard for our fellow citizens feels deeply un-American to me.

I understand last minute changes are in the works to try to increase the amount of money being given to states who have senators who are on the fence about approving this bill.

Rather than attempt to bribe and/or bully them, please take a moment to consider that they are right.

Haste makes waste.

In this case, the haste to get this bill passed will result in many wasted and broken lives.

I don't think any of you want that, and I know the nation does not.

Thank you,
Megan

Megan C Waters

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [redacted] on behalf of Amy Shaw [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Please do not rob health insurance from the poorest and most vulnerable Americans to finance a tax break for the wealthiest and least vulnerable Americans. Your donors may be pressuring you to pass this bill, but to do so would be to flagrantly ignore your responsibility as an elected representative of ALL the people in your district, not just your donors whose interests are obviously not aligned with the needs of a vast majority of Americans.

Sincerely,
Amy Shaw in Brooklyn, NY

--
Amy E. Shaw
[redacted] 50
[redacted] 718-221-3306
[redacted] [redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: leah turner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I have crippling rheumatoid, psoriatic and osteo arthritis at age 51. I receive \$905 a month in Social Security and \$105 in food stamps.

I also receive Medicare and Medicaid on as well. I would not be able to afford medications, premiums on or medical insurance should this bill pass.

I cannot express how vehemently I oppose this bill. I hope you do to, for my sake and the sake of millions of others.

Thank you.

Leah Tate

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Crane <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Finance Committee,

Please don't pass the Graham/Cassidy healthcare bill and please stop entertaining proposed bills that would leave millions of Americans without healthcare. Work for all of God's children!

Sincerely,

Pastor Cindy Crane

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Madison, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Rev. Cindy Crane
Director

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Madison, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donnetta McNeil [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No vote on Graham Cassidy bill

I live in San Antonio TX and I vote! I live with a chronic medical condition. But it's not me that I'm most concerned about. This bill threatens our most vulnerable. There are many children who will be devastated by this bill should it become law. It just cannot be allowed to pass. Taking away healthcare and benefits from fragile kids is unacceptable. We are better than this. Graham Cassidy falls far short of fixing the problems with the ACA, and in fact adds greater strain on the state and the individual. Who wins here? Please vote no on Graham Cassidy.

Donnetta McNeil
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]y
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pamela D Weaver [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Terrible bill. To bring this forward is unconscionable and worse and definitely not in the best interest of the American people!

Pamela Weaver
Austin TX

Sent from my iPhone

the emergency room. It was the first time an ambulance had ever been to the school and the school nurse called to tell me his bone had broken through his leg. In the hospital, it was determined that his femur bone was riddled with cancer. Fortunately, the one doctor who could perform that type of surgery had recently moved from San Antonio to Austin. It was Dr. Williams or a ambulance ride to M.D. Anderson in Houston. After limb salvage was performed, Alex was in the hospital for a six week stretch, his longest yet. We were told that he would need to undergo another year of treatment. His expected survival for recurrent ewings sarcoma was less than 7%.

My son was 3 years cancer free before cancer came back in his prostate. We had his prostate removed and he is again cancer free but taking chemo for the next year. Now though, the titanium rod that serves as his femur was not made long enough and is causing scoliosis in his back. The doctors will not touch the rod in his leg as they have told me that due to the radiation in his leg/pelvis that area is very fragile. My son's hair never grew back and if you were to look at him from the back with his very pronounced limp and lack of hair you would think he is an old man. When he and his sister ate at IHOP for breakfast, the girls in the next booth were making fun of his hair. He didn't hear them but my daughter did and said something to them before they left. Now my son who loved being outside and playing sports stays in his room reads and plays video games. He really doesn't like to go out, has missteps when walking due to his leg length discrepancy and can't play any of the sports that he once loved so much. He has had such a hard life and he is only 16 and he never complains.

Now for my story-two weeks before my 18th birthday, my brother committed suicide in our front yard. I decided then to go to college to try and make something more of myself. In college I was raped, the man tried and put in prison for ten years. Twenty years after my brother died my father committed suicide due to his bad health. My mom passed away a few years later leaving me without any family to fall back on. I bring this up because nothing has been more difficult for me than these past years when I wake up and wondering if this was going to be the day my son's cancer returns. If you have children you would know how this feels, how my mother must of felt when my brother committed suicide, that one of the worst things ever to survive is for a child to die before his parents.

My husband is not from this country and the rest of his family is in Holland. We had no help when my 10 year old son was sick and my daughter practically had to raise herself. She is going to college this year and has received an academic scholarship. I have worked since I was 14 and only took time off to raise my children and I will continue to work as long as I am able and we have never asked for help from the government or anyone, but I am always so incredibly worried about the future of my son I just don't know what to do. I am so worried for his future what additional side effects will befall him and now who will insure him, what if his cancer comes back what if our insurance drops him and all of us. I beg that you please, please do not let the childhood cancer survivors suffer anymore than they already have and most likely will in the future. These children have been through so much already. Another thing that is so very horrible about childhood cancer is that I am old and have lived most of my life but my son is just beginning and with luck will live many years more to come. Please don't let him and the other childhood cancer survivors fall into some awful high risk pool with high premiums and lousy coverage or not have coverage at all. Please do not repeal without having some sort of safety net for these kids to fall into. As you know cancer doesn't affect just the one who has it, but also parents, grandparents, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles, friends and neighbors. Please do the right thing, I am begging you.

Tracy de Bont

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tracy de Bont [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I had previously written to you about Obamacare, but I didn't go into detail about my son who is 15 years old and a two time cancer survivor. I know you have done a lot for childhood cancer and I am begging you to remember these kids in the future days. What if our insurance company drops our son because he has exceeded policy limits? Who else would ever insure him? How would we ever be able to pay for his treatment without insurance? We would gladly sell everything we own, but his hospital bills from the two recurrences before were millions of dollars. He had to stay in the hospital for months at a time over 2 years. I worry almost everyday that his cancer will come back and without any laws in place to prevent insurance companies from dropping high risk patients I now continuously worry about that too. When my son was 10 he kept complaining about his legs hurting. We took him to the doctors who said on more than one occasion that it was growing pains. I was lucky in that I could afford to go to the doctor for such a supposedly minor complaint. When I woke up early one morning to go to the bathroom, I found Alex sitting on the couch because he couldn't sleep because his leg was hurting so bad. I took him back to the doctor who then took x-rays and still he couldn't find a problem. He told me to come back after the weekend if his leg was still hurting. It was and I did when they decided to test his blood. When the results came back we were immediately sent to the Dell children's hospital. It took a few more months to determine what type of treatment my son should get because the doctors couldn't agree on what type of cancer he had. They decided to treat for ewings sarcoma by which time he was diagnose had metastasized to his pelvis giving him a 30% chance of surviving. I don't even remember how I made through the first 6 months, I cried all the time except when I was with my son. My husband or I stayed in the hospital every night on a fold out couch and we were in the hospital as much as out. My son lost 50 pounds in three months (when he only weighed 130 to begin with), couldn't even drink water without throwing up and his toenails and fingernails fell off completely. We ate Thanksgiving dinner on the hospital floor, and though we were able to make it out for Christmas, we were back by New Years Eve which also happens to be my daughter's birthday. We often had to take an ambulance to get radiation treatments at another hospital and my husband started drinking heavily. Alex sometimes would scream from the pain of treatment and being confined in the hospital so much and for so long that the only thing that would calm him was morphine. We completed treatment a year to the month from when we first came in. All during this time there was talk about amputating his leg or possible limb salvage of his leg/pelvis, but since the treatment seemed to be working the doctors took a wait and see attitude.

Before this, my son loved playing sports-basketball was his favorite because he was taller than most kids his age. He also loved soccer, swimming and softball. Our neighborhood was full of kids and there were enough children that they made teams and played kickball in front of our house as we live on a cul de sac. The winter before we had gone skiing for the first time and Alex loved it! He also loved camping, being outdoors and hiking around. After we finished treatment Alex was so weak that it took him months before he could get out of the wheelchair that he had been in since his treatment began and walk around. It just broke my heart when the kids were playing kickball in front of our house and he would watch from his wheelchair from the front window in our house. The doctors told us that with the exception of swimming he could never do others sports again because of the fragility of his femur and pelvis due to the radiation. We carried on and got him out of his chair, walking again and back to school (6th grade) as he missed most of his 5th grade year.

Eight months later while playing dodge ball in school (which he probably should NOT have been doing), he broke his femur (the longest, strongest bone in the body) in a compound fracture and was rushed from school to

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Perna [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Wright, Kevin (Finance); Dennis Borel
Subject: Cassidy-Graham bill effects on Medicaid

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

I am submitting the following video for your consideration over the Cassidy Graham bill on behalf of my colleague and friend, Susie Angel.

<https://www.facebook.com/TxDisabilities/videos/1551546828209497/>

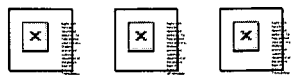
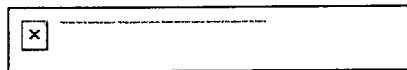
Like many people with disabilities, Susie relies on Medicaid for daily attendant services and healthcare. Without these, she would not be able to get out of her home to work and participate in her community. Her contributions in these areas are crucial; our organization and the many groups and projects that Susie is a part of would take a hit if she were not here.

Cassidy-Graham fundamentally changes the funding structure of Medicaid by implementing a per capita cap and ultimately resulting in fewer federal dollars. Even Texas, a state that has been dubbed a "winner" under this legislation, would be negatively affected. After the Medicaid expansion block grant expires in 2026, federal Medicaid funding will plummet, and based on its history, our state legislature is extremely unlikely to cover the losses.

Please consider how badly a cut to Medicaid would hurt the Americans who rely on it, like Susie-and those who work, play, worship, and organize with her.

Thank you,
Laura Perna

--
Laura Perna
[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Monica Weldon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:42 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. Monica Weldon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Casey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham Cassidy bill

I am opposed to the Graham Cassidy bill because the experts in the health field are opposed to it and because the CBO was not given time to fully analyze. I am opposed to Congress rushing this bill past the American people without soliciting our input, educating us on the features, and answering questions from us. ACA took a long time and was discussed and debated. When Congress is not willing to educate us and explain the features honestly, it doesn't pass the smell test. I live in Texas and I am concerned that the bill gives Texas the ability to limit coverage. Sometimes the federal government has to do the right thing because the states won't- for example, desegregation and more recently same sex marriage.

I am opposed to the bill because my sister was able to get insurance when ACA was enacted. I worry for her if ACA is repealed.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Patricia Casey
Houston, Texas



Sandy McMillan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: dtat60 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Sirs,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill and urge a "No" vote. I do not trust my home State of Texas to ensure that those with pre-existing conditions will not be excluded. Their previous "High Risk Pool" was terrible.

I'm sure that with a little more thought, compromise, and effort this nation came do better for it's citizens.

Sincerely,

David Tatum

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 78993

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nisenbaum, Miriam [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Please do not allow this bill to go forward. It will rip healthcare from tens of millions of Americans. This is a bad bill! Please listen to the AMA, AHA, Nurses and allied Healthcare providers as well as the insurance carriers. This bill is devastating and wrong for America! Miriam Nisenbaum 4804 Misty Brook Cove Austin Texas 78727

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carmen Vela [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My sister and my niece both suffer from epilepsy. My husband had a heart attack in 2010. My nephew has cerebral palsy. His father has a heart valve and he is a veteran. All of these are pre-existing conditions. Our Texas government cannot be trusted to do right by its citizens.

Carmen :)

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: angela rush [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy

Sirs and Madams,

I am 36 yrs old. I live in TX. I have been happily married to my husband for nearly a decade. We have three brilliant, beautiful sons.

We found out that I was terminally ill shortly after the birth of our third son. My pancreas is shutting down from years of undiscovered pancreatitis. I was born with a rare malformation of the pancreas. It simply had not been caught.

I cannot have a blood transfusion or get the much needed pancreatic transplant due to being born with one of the most rare haplotypes on earth.

Basic health insurance may be good for the normal person. I recall the days when I only needed to get a physical. But if you were to become ill - deathly ill - you would understand the abject fear someone in my situation goes through every time the ACA is being repealed. It's nauseating.

Please stop the GrahamCassidy bill from moving forward. There really is no greater fear than the fear of not knowing if the treatments keeping you alive will be covered anymore.

Sincerely,
Angela Quintanilla-Rush

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marjorie Procter-Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

This bill will harm Americans, especially the elderly, the young, and those with serious medical conditions. Premiums will increase, and coverage will dwindle. Put the country before party and stop this bill NOW.

Marjorie Procter-Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Berry [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:20 PM
To: gchcomments; kaya.b.jackson@gmail.com
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To whom it concerns,

My granddaughter has pre-existing conditions, and utilizes Medicaid, on top of her family's health insurance.

With panhypopituitarism and epilepsy she is medically fragile and behind in her development. She receives in house therapies to improve her ability to walk, talk, even swallow.

Bree is a beautiful, joyous 2 1/2 year old - my daughter's first and eagerly awaited child. Her young family could never afford the many prescriptions, hospitalizations, and care she needs, without Medicaid.

Don't leave it to the states to decide if she gets the chance at a semi-normal life. The state of Texas might get more funds, but it has not been kind to our children.

Texas cut Medicaid dollars for the specific therapies she needs. Though a majority of Texas representatives voted to restore that funding in special session, our governor wouldn't make the call for a vote.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is not good for a country with the greatest riches in the world. We should not pit states against each other. But we should take care of those who need it the most.

Thank you,
Robin Berry

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Preserve ACA

As an American, I implore you to preserve the ACA as the law of the land FOR ALL. Doesn't allowing Alaska to keep ACA prove that GCH is NOT better? Do not vote for this repeal which you know will lead to tens of thousands of annual deaths.

Zack Miller
Dallas, TX [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Vega [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good evening,

I am writing about the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill for changes to the ACA. This bill is horrible for Americans.

First, I ask that Congress not to hold a vote on this bill that will affect 1/6 of the US economy without a CBO score. You cannot make an intelligent decision based on hearsay. You need to know the true impact of the bill and not just what the authors of the bill want you to believe.

Secondly, I am very worried about the language used in the bill that allows states to "waive" protections for pre-existing conditions. My family will be directly affected by this provision. My husband has several pre-existing conditions. Without his continued treatment, he will be another patient who spends their lives hooked up to a dialysis machine. His medications are expensive and my income is spent on basic living and making sure he has what he needs. We have been working on keeping him off of dialysis for years and have succeed to this point. Without insurance, he will die because like thousands of others, we will be bankrupt and unable to afford his care.

My next concern is the eventual complete shutdown of Medicaid. This program helps young people, people with disabilities and elderly. America does not have the family support system that was part of life a hundred years ago. In so many thousands of cases today, there is no expanded family to care for the elderly. Medicaid pays for nursing homes and provides care for elderly who can no longer care for themselves.

This bill is predicted to leave over 30 million Americans without healthcare. This is unacceptable in America. I personally do not believe states will be able to implement a healthcare system which is fair and covers people who do not have insurance through their employers. This is BAD for the United States and all Americans. Do NOT pass Graham-Cassidy without CBO scoring, without hearings and without regard to how it will affect over 30 million Americans. Please return to regular order in the Senate and remember Congress is to represent all Americans and not just their big money supporters. Congress must work together to fix healthcare and not ride roughshod over people who are the most vulnerable. Thank you,

Barbara Vega

Alpine, TX [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shellie Driscoll [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I implore the Senate to REJECT this bill. It will do irreparable harm to those with pre existing conditions, women, and those on Medicaid. America is better than this.

Shellie Driscoll
Dallas, TX

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KATHY JONES [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

My family will go bankrupt if Graham-Cassidy becomes law. I'm retired and not wealthy, so I can't afford for my premiums to go up. I can't afford for my deductibles to go up. I can't afford for annual and lifetime caps to come back. I have asthma and cannot afford to pay a surcharge for it being a pre-existing condition.

I don't want to be part of anything that will leave 32 million people uninsured. What's that? You disagree with that number? Well, then, wait for a CBO score/analysis! Shame on you for putting this bill together in a secret back room in the 11th hour, in a very partisan way, with no public hearings, no expert hearings, and no debate.

I know you think you can't be re-elected without the Koch Brothers' money, but I promise you that the large majority of Americans who oppose this bill don't care how much advertising you'll be able to pay for ...

We will remember that you didn't care about killing off some of your constituents and bankrupting others.

We will remember that you were too afraid to discuss health care with us and decided to have ZERO town halls back home.

We will remember that you said you were pro life, but voted for a bill that will kill some of your constituents.

We will remember that you voted to give a huge tax cut to medical device companies in this bill at OUR expense.

And if you vote "no" on this bill, we will remember that you are for us, and we will re-elect you without the Koch Brothers' money.

Represent your constituents.

It's your job.

Thank you for listening.

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Stahl [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: aca vs gc bill

Please respected legislators, I urge you not to repeal the ACA.

The protections provided in the ACA have been an important first step to finding a better way for our society. We all value human life and we must strive to find acceptable bipartisan solutions to ensure all our sick and poor are well care for. A family dealing with catastrophic health news-should not then need to go bankrupt or destitute in trying to find ways to help their loved one. There are better ways. We must look at runaway costs in the market and how can these be addressed. For example, what about pharmaceutical costs that continue to climb even though production costs have gone down. Why are we paying to advertise so much on tv? I think most would choose to research ideas when needed and advertising is not necessary. Why is the cost of a MRI still going up when the technology has been out for over 20+ years. No other business see that kind of return, why medical? If we only consider market forces, we are looking at a system similar to my dog's pet insurance. I personally grieve for pet owners that must make heartbreaking decisions because of caps and limits in their pets insurance. Can we really afford to treat our fellow citizens in the same fashion? Are we really ok with that? We are a smart and capable society. American is wonderful, let us keep striving for the most highest of ideals and goals, health care being of utmost importance. We can get there without passing the burden on poor and sick families. Please let's build on the protections we have in the ACA.

Another question I have always wondered about: Why is it, we are all comfortable with expecting all drivers to have car insurance for the greater good but somehow health insurance isn't? If we step back, we look again at a system where the emergency room is where many people will run in dire need. Who pays then? Of course the consumer does again and no one is well served. Let us find a better way and not go back to the challenges we had in the past. Lets build upon the baby steps of the ACA and make our nation proud of how well we take care of our sick and poor.

Thanks for listening and thanks for your service to our country,
Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bethany Rhoades [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: feedback on Graham-Cassidy Bill

It's my understanding that you are taking comments on the Graham-Cassidy Bill. All analysis indicates that this bill would take away health care from millions of Americans, including seniors, cut the Medicaid program, increase premiums and allow states to get rid of protections for people with pre-existing conditions. There is no apparent "upside" to the bill -- it's sole goal being to destroy the ACA without leaving anything which benefits the people of this country to replace it. This is both cruel and unconscionable. By allowing insurers to opt out of coverage or penalize people when they get sick, it effectively negates the safety net insurance is supposed to provide to the consumer! From a moral standpoint, it will create debt too great for the average consumer to pay and will literally kill people. This legislation is unacceptable!

In case you need more information on me, I live in Cedar Park, Texas. 78613. I have asthma, inherited from my father, as do my two sons. We use medications that are decades old and inexpensive for treatment and manage this condition very well. However this very thing could prevent me and my children from having coverage. We are solidly middle class and depend upon affordable health insurance both in our daily lives and to prevent future calamity!

Everyone grows older. No one stays in good health forever. And most people in the Unites States are not affluent enough to weather huge medical bills for illnesses, whether inherited, afflicted, or due to the ravages of bad luck or time. Graham-Cassidy goes against the social contract government holds with the people of the United States and will wreak havoc financially with the lives of the vast majority of its citizens.

Thank you for your time!

Bethany Rhoades

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Camille Gray [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Pituitary tumor

My daughter was diagnosed with a brain tumor 3 years ago. Fortunately, we had insurance under champva. After completing college, she was no longer eligible- and signed up for ACA.

NOW, the desire of the majority seeks to pander to "special" donors who make millions or billions, for the sole purpose of insuring future contributions to their campaigns--to remain in office to represent only those 1%. Shame.

You work for regular Americans. You are sworn to protect and defend. Imperiling the lives of the most vulnerable is wrong, and down right evil.

America doesn't support this dastardly bill. You know it. You are trying to curry favor and cut taxes for the rich people who don't need it, while conducting your own brand of abortion --on living people, in need. Eugenics.

Camille Gray
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Baldwin [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@me.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I write to voice my strong opposition to the proposed Graham/Cassidy healthcare bill under consideration to repeal the ACA. By every measure, this bill is a failure to meet the needs of the American public.

That the bill should come up for a vote in Congress before the Congressional Budget Office has been able to provide a 'score' of the costs to the public and the healthcare system in general is an affront. Conservative estimates put the number of people who will LOSE healthcare at 30 million. I will be one of those 30 million, due to a pre-existing condition—I have had kidney stones since I was young, and despite following all precautions and making all lifestyle and dietary changes advised, I will still continue to have the stones for the rest of my life. This bill cuts all protection for preexisting conditions for millions of people like me.

I find it craven in the extreme that this bill is even under proposal for the seeming sole reason that the party proposing it will lose the backing of their richest donors should they not repeal the ACA. That the sponsors of the bill would put the needs of the very few, and very rich, before the needs of the majority of the American people is a moral failure of the highest order.

I join with such professional bodies as the AMA and AARP in condemning this bill, and asking you to return to regular order so that a bi-partisan bill can be proposed, debated, modified and discussed in search for an improvement upon the ACA.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Baldwin
Dallas, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: LAURA KAYATA [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: please enter my statement in the hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

please vote no. this bill is mean, unfair, discriminatory and frankly, un-american.

i have many concerns, chief among them:

1. premium availability for those with pre-existing conditions.
2. unfair surcharges for those with pre-existing conditions (especially newborns, cancer patients, pregnant women and military with mental health issues).
3. the fact that up to 32M americans would lose coverage.

who would think this bill is a good idea? please listen to the majority of american and. just fix the platform that already exists under ACA.

THANK YOU!

.....
laura ziebell kayata | creative director + owner
metro-grafix creative services

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debi Bryant [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Say NO to Graham-Cassidy

Graham-Cassidy is as heartless a healthcare bill as any other version of Trumpcare. My granddaughters are currently covered under Medicaid because it's all our daughter can afford since her ex is a deadbeat dad. Please do not take away my granddaughters' access to healthcare.

Also the AMA has come out against this bill because it violates the AMA's number one operating principle: first do no harm. The AMA is filled with people who are the smartest people in the room when it comes to healthcare. Let's trust them.

Debi Bryant
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

ill last year following a medical procedure error (she was sent home with a post-surgical infection). Had she delayed for ONE HOUR returning to the hospital because of financial hesitations, she would now be barren. Had she delayed for one day, she'd be dead.

sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Ph.D.
[REDACTED] pt.
[REDACTED] Station 11000
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (512) 471-5595
[REDACTED] (512) 471-5595

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Collins, David [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: brief statement re Graham-Cassidy, "A-mended"

(1) "national" - just to mention some of the "A's":

... have all expressed concerned opposition to the pending Graham-Cassidy legislation, especially on content but also on purportedly "democratic" legislative process grounds.

AARP
American Medical Association
American Psychiatric Association
Avalere Health

update now includes:

ALS Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Physicians
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Diabetes Association
America's Essential Hospitals
America's Health Insurance Plans
American Heart Association
American Hospital Association
American Lung Association
American Nurses Association
The Arc
Arthritis Foundation
Association of Community Affiliated Plans

Having the Senate in Washington enact national healthcare policies which our country's health care providers and institutions understand to be harmful is, frankly, a travesty.

(2) "personal" -

As a wealthiest nation in the history of the world, it is an embarrassment and obscenity that we do not as a country take better care of the health of all our citizens.
My young adult daughter has been covered through my insurance via the ACA provision. She became seriously

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zapace [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy healthcare bill

This is a morally repugnant bill. It would take away healthcare for well over 30 million Americans. By leaving a state such as mine, Texas, responsible for dictating the healthcare plans, managing Medicaid payments, ensuring maternity care, guaranteeing coverage for pre existing conditions is a joke as Texas ranks lowest in the nation in providing services. My husband's employer sponsored health care coverage is also at risk. This health plan as proposed by Graham Cassidy is a terrible bill which will do more harm than good. All senators who support it should be ashamed of themselves.

Veronica Martinez-Hadley
Jason Hadley

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Larry Jordan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I am a healthy, 59-year old man, who pays over \$18,000 annually for health insurance for me and my wife in the individual market.

I am NOT interested in any so-called reform that does not enhance affordability or expand accessibility, so I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,

Larry Jordan

[REDACTED]

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note® 4, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scooter Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham/Cassidy bill

To the US Senate,

You should make it easier to get care, not harder. Health care is a right, not a privilege for just the healthy and the wealthy. I was healthy once, and I was subsidizing sick people. Now I am one of those sick people. I am 59 years old and served as a Federal employee for 27 years. I was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Autoimmune Disease 4 years ago. I take 37 different medications each day. I am deathly afraid that I will be unable to afford my medications and treatment. Please kill this bill with your NO vote, and let the issue of healthcare receive bipartisan solutions. Thank you.

Laura M. Grindle
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Jager [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Comments

Graham Cassidy is bad for business. As a self-employed person, I rely on a private healthcare policy. I, like millions of Americans, have pre-existing conditions. Should Graham Cassidy be passed, insurers will be able to increase the price of my insurance to an untenable level. At that point, I will have to decide whether to stay in business or fold and seek employment in a larger organization. As it is, I provide a critical service to many small businesses in my area. The work I do is crucial for them to maintain their businesses and grow our local economy. Without independent bookkeepers like myself, their businesses will suffer. The American Dream, for so many of us, is to steer our own course as entrepreneurs. The ACA makes owning businesses possible for those of us with imperfect bodies. And it takes away a risk that is prohibitive for many of us would-be entrepreneurs. Leave the ACA alone and help our country prosper.

Karen Jager
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kye Flannery [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please, no Graham-Cassidy

I have a sister with kids. I'm covered at my work, but she and her husband work for themselves. They (as well as the hundreds of sick, poor patients I work with at the hospital every year) need quality, affordable healthcare. Small businesses need a payment that isn't too high. The poor folks need automatic coverage, so nobody has to worry about whether or not they can afford to be sick. Insurance agencies run with a margin of profit that most hospitals only dream of. We should have more nurses in hospitals, taking better care of us -- not fewer, with insurance pulling all the strings of what we can do for people.

I live in Texas. It's SAD, and IMPOSSIBLY HARD to see people leave the hospital with no resources -- no social workers, no psych services -- unless they want to be committed? -- which is what happens when you leave "social programs" (i.e. services we may all need at one time or another) to a state that may choose not to fund it. They decide everybody's a whiner and should fend for themselves. Consequently, mental health care that's available to a poor person, a homeless person, a veteran in Massachusetts, is NOT available to the people I love and work with in Texas. That's not, not, not, not fair.

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,
Kye Flannery
Austin, Texas

--

Kye Flannery

"Do not depend on the hope of results. You may have to face the fact that your work will be apparently worthless and even achieve no result at all, if not perhaps results opposite to what you expect. As you get used to this idea, you start more and more to concentrate not on the results, but on the value, the rightness, the truth of the work itself. You gradually struggle less and less for an idea and more and more for specific people. In the end, it is the reality of personal relationship that saves everything." -Thomas Merton

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Beth Oldenburg [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I am writing you concerning health care in America. The American Medical Association opposes the Graham-Cassidy "health care" bill because it violates "first, do no harm." I am opposed to this new bill for several reasons. As a teacher, my insurance is expensive and ineffective. My husband doesn't have insurance because adding him to my plan would take over a third of my monthly paycheck. With two small children, we can't afford this expense. Healthcare shouldn't be a luxury. My mother has had eight brain surgeries due to NPH. She is retired due to her health and can't afford to lose her insurance through Medicare. If she loses her insurance, her quality of life would be drastically altered. Healthcare shouldn't be a concern to someone who paid taxes for over fifty five years of her life. This January I delivered my second child. He was an unplanned cesarean section. With insurance, my family still paid over \$5,000 out of pocket. Couple that expense with no paid maternity leave, and having a child is a large expense for a middle class family. Having a child should not be a burden on a family due to the expense of healthcare. Why should congressmen have quality government healthcare yet other public servants have ineffective healthcare? Shouldn't educators and first responders have the same quality of healthcare? Also, if senators are trying to "protect Americans from government healthcare," then why don't they repeal their own healthcare plan?

Respectfully,
Sarah Oldenburg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Johnston <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Senators

I am the mother of two children both of which were born with Congenital Heart Defects. My son had open heart surgery at 12 days old and my daughter will be having open heart surgery shortly after her third birthday. Because of this both of my little ones will most likely not be covered if the Graham-Cassidy Bill passed. Graham Cassidy basically gives states to allow insurance companies to opt out of EHB, cap limits and increase costs because of preexisting conditions. The president promised to do the opposite of all of these things. If you want government out of healthcare, just say so. Please stop lying to the American people. If you do think government has a role, go back to working with your Democratic colleagues and craft a bipartisan bill. Stop trying to "ram something down our throats" and remake 1/6 of the American economy just because you couldn't come up with the minimum 50 votes the first time around. Please keep my children in mind when you vote on this bill.

Thank you,
Lisa Johnston
Brenham, Tx

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angelo Peña
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal

I don't find anything redeeming about repealing the ACA. This is only being done for two reasons: racism and appeasing a vocal but small voice within the Republican party. What's the use of a gigantic war machine that has a bottomless pit of a budget, to protect the USA, if the politicians are voting to do more harm from within than an outside enemy.

I think that whoever votes for this repeal should have to live with the very same consequences as those of us who are not in government. A revolt is what is needed to remove those who only want to do harm to the electorate, which includes ANY politician who votes for this atrocity of a bill.

Angelo Peña
Democrat
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:12 PM
To: gchcomments; Wright, Kevin (Finance)
Subject: Concerns on Cassidy-Graham Bill

Dear Committee Members,

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD) is a statewide cross-disability organization founded in 1978. Low-income people with disabilities have much to be concerned about in this bill, as it will result in a weakening of Medicaid. But also those who obtain health insurance through commercial health are incredibly worried that this bill would permit Texas to compromise the pre-existing condition protection. This is also a huge worry for parents of kids with disabilities. Moreover, kids covered by CHIP face a loss of coverage if not extended by 9-30.

I am an employer of people with disabilities in our small business. I would lose 2 valuable workers if this bill passes. Susie is a person with cerebral palsy, a skilled writer and researcher who is on a Medicaid waiver. Without those services, Susie does not get out of bed, shower, dress and come to work. Erin was a stay-at-home caregiver for her elderly, disabled mom for several years, until her mother began receiving community attendant care in a waiver. Erin returned to the workforce and is a valuable of our team. My business would be hurt by losing these employees and both would become more, not less, dependent on government support.

[REDACTED], Executive Director
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 70
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:12 PM
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D [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Consider your constituents

I am not sure why this bill is being discussed. That said, basic human decency demands that you ask yourself if you would want the covering you are proposing for yourself. Based on all the reading I have done, the answer to that should be no.

An ethical, responsible Health Care bill should cover maternity, pre-existing conditions and neo-natal care. The Cassidy-Graham bill does not.

Vote NO to this bill.

Laura Taggett
Cypress, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Peters [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

The ACA isn't perfect and it's been hobbled by your actions, Republicans But it is far superior to the rushed, cobbled-together bill you are now considering.

Reordering one-sixth of the economy should be a bipartisan effort that sets standards for the nation that will protect those who are ill or who will become ill. Return to regular order and do the hard work of finding the right legislation for all. Robbing one state to help another, then pulling the plug on Medicaid in 2027 is an act of sabotage. Leaving in sloppy language on preexisting conditions any state could drive a truck through is not serving the people who need health care the most.

My daughter has epilepsy and paralysis. With medication, she is a productive member of society and is pursuing her masters in social work. Without the preexisting condition protection in the ACA, she could not get insurance. Because your bill has left so much discretion to the states, she has no guarantee that she can afford insurance even if she's eligible for it. In my state, our government is so irresponsible with health care we have among the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. Why should I have confidence in these elected officials to protect my daughter?

I urge you to be responsible and return to a bipartisan effort to help all Americans instead of trying to satisfy your donors. The fact that you are not holding hearings, not engaging in debate, sneaking the bill through under cover of disasters, and avoiding a CBO score tells me the sponsors know it's a bad bill and are afraid we will notice.

Also, the misinformation and outright lies being spread on behalf of this bill are appalling. As voters and citizens, we deserve an orderly process for revising the ACA so that everyone is heard. People will die if this bill passes. Stop toying with us. No means no.

Carol Peters
Fort Worth, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Gebren [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am 100% in opposition to this Bill.

The Bill was conceived without any citizen, medical authority, etc. input. No hearings.

This Bill is strictly an excuse for Congress to tell their constituents they repealed Obamacare. Are they not listening? We want the ACA FIXED. And not replaced with something worse.

If this Bill is passed, not only will people die from lack of medical care, but our economy will go into a tailspin as people deplete savings and cash reserves to pay deductibles.

I always felt cancer patients should not have to have a bake sale to pay for treatments. With this a Bill, not even a bake sale (or BBQ, or concert) will raise enough money.

Block grants to the States? Heck, Texas can't even manage to adequately support schools. How long will it take for a State receiving less money to sue because the formula used is perhaps Unconstitutional?

Caps on lifetime medical expenses? One bad auto accident and that's it. One transplant. One baby born with medical issues. One bout with cancer.

Pre-Existing conditions? I bet 80% of Congress has a pre-existing condition. Allergy, arthritis, precancerous skin problems.....these are just the minor ones!

Medicaid allows us to value ALL life, from children of poverty to the elderly. From children and adults with mental or physical disabilities to adults needing medical services. This is personal, as I have a 5 yo granddaughter with Spinal Muscular Atrophy. Through Medicaid, her parents have been able to continue a miracle drug, Spinraza. This has enabled her to crawl (yep, she could never crawl as a baby/ toddler), stand, pull herself up, sit independently in a chair (core muscle strength) and actually walk with a walker! Medicaid has helped with respiratory equipment, wheelchairs, standees and physical therapy. Olivia is just one example. There are thousands of special needs children for whom Medicaid is benefiting.

I agree we need healthcare reform. Graham-Cassidy is not the way.

Thank you!

Susan Gebren
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn Wagner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy VOTE NO

Dear Senators

I am a working mother of 2 beautiful girls. I am very lucky that they are healthy and that I am able to get insurance through my employer. But if they were to get sick and you never know when you will get a horrible diagnosis, I don't know if my insurance will cap out because the cost of their care could be unimaginable. Graham Cassidy basically gives states to allow insurance companies to opt out of EHB, cap limits and increase costs because of preexisting conditions. The president promised to do the opposite of all of these things. If you want government out of healthcare, just say so. Please stop lying to the American people. If you do think government has a role, go back to working with your Democratic colleagues and craft a bipartisan bill. Stop trying to "ram something down our throats" and remake 1/6 of the American economy just because you couldn't come up with the minimum 50 votes the first time around.

Dawn Wagner
Houston Tx

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jen Barwick [mailto:jenbarwick@roundrocktx.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on current healthcare bill
Attachments: image1.jpeg; ATT00001.txt; image2.jpeg; ATT00002.txt

My beautiful boy, Kenyon, has cerebral palsy—a pre-existing condition. He deserves good, affordable health insurance coverage, same as anyone.

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

Sincerely,
Jennifer Barwick
Round Rock, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bonnie Preston [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SFC Hearing on GCH

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I was a healthy person for 36 years, subsidizing the care of others as I have had health insurance through an employer or COBRA since 1971, when I first entered the workplace.

In 1990, our daughter was born. 4 years later, we discovered, through the diligence of a pediatrician, that she had been born with a single kidney, and she needed surgery because that kidney was in trouble. She was put on a regimen of antibiotics for 3 months before the surgery, which was successful.

In 2001, she was diagnosed with malignant hypertension after 5 years of chasing migraines and countless blood tests and MRIs. The Surgery fixed the original problem, but not a congenital problem which has caused her to have chronic hypertension. She will take blood pressure medications the rest of her life to avoid a stroke. She is 27.

In 2011, she was diagnosed with both Dystonia and Narcolepsy with cataplexy, both rare, incurable disorders. The treatment to keep her mostly functional involves a cocktail of prescription medications, some of which are very expensive.

In 2011, I was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis, which took a year to treat into remission and is now controlled by prescription medications. Last November, I fell and broke my hip and needed emergency total hip replacement surgery and months of physical therapy to recover the full function of my mobility.

The fact that the members of a party that claims to be "pro-life" would even consider legislation that removes essential health protections from the majority of citizens in this country is completely repugnant. The fact that you are doing it in order to provide a tax break to people who will never want for anything in this life and can well afford the best medical treatment on this planet - even without health insurance - is disgusting.

Frankly, I no longer expect compassion from most in the GOP, but I am hoping that someone on the Senate Finance Committee still has their heart and soul and can be persuaded that this proposed legislation needs to be defeated before it ever sees the light of day.

I implore you, on behalf of sick human beings, and those who have not experienced illness or accident but eventually will, to please vote NO.

Bonnie J. Preston
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Maye [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO

Hello,
My name is Ellen Tulloch and I am writing to voice my opposition to the Graham-cassidy Healthcare bill.

This bill will impact almost if not all of my family, from my mother who still deals with health problems from bearing 9 children, to my father in law struggling with breast cancer. This bill will allow insurance companies to take advantage of their sickness to get more cash. This bill is not moral. There is no way to dice this that makes it less of a crime against the American people.

The constitution talks about how it is the job of the government to promote general welfare. Eliminating laws that protected the weakest of our nation against predatory insurance companies goes against that constitutional mandate.

My father in law already struggles to afford his insurance - without ACA, he wouldn't be able to afford any. Period. With the Graham-cassidy bill, his premiums would skyrocket. My husband and I both rely on the mental Healthcare provision in the ACA to afford the medications required to be functioning members of society.

The right wing loves to paint the left as advocates of eugenics and euthanasia. They are blind if they cannot see the way this bill will result in execution by lack of care. It will upend the insurance market . it will kill thousands and you don't even have the CBO score yet.

If I showed this level of unprofessionalism, I would be fired. It is humiliating and frankly infuriating to see it in our congress.

Vote NO on Graham Cassidy

Ellen Tulloch
Richardson, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elaine/Delbert Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:34 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 and I are in our seventies and this bill would reduce our coverage for pre-existing conditions and make the premiums for insurance substantially higher. We live on a fixed income and can't afford huge increases in our insurance premiums, especially when that comes with reduced coverage! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it!

Sincerely,
Elaine Foster
Georgetown, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roger Malcolm <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Comments

I am not sure anyone has put much thought into this bill.

For example/

1) There are no protections for pre-existing conditions nor limits to prices that can be charged. The Bill only states that States have to show intention, to be dived by the Health Secretary, to do so in a reasonable manner, to be defined by that State and the Health Secretary, as meeting the "reasonable." That is extreme vague for legal code and anyone paying attention knows there will be many states that will water-down those issues, making insurance worthless for when you really needed it (big illness.)

2) How does anyone think that states, some with part-time legislators, can implement the rebuild of a 50 year program, Medicaid, in two years. Also four states have only one year because their legislators only meet in odd-numbered years, including the 2nd largest populated state in the union, Texas. Also, many states have different political parts controlling different branch of that State. Does someone truly think that those bodies will come to gather to rebuild something that is ~30% of most state budgets?

Instead to will likely lead to chaos, in almost every state, which means that millions and millions of people who are likely going to be kicked of healthcare starting 1-1-2020. Also, 60% of people in nursing homes are funded by Medicaid. Will they be kicked out? Will their loved ones quit their jobs to take care of them? What would that do to the economy even if you think it is possible?

I am dumbfounded how this bill makes no sense. Did anyone put any thought into it???

Roger Malcolm
Richmond, Texas



14. I am a states-rights person. But this bill pretends to give flexibility and empowerment to the states. What a shame that you think we are idiots. When I worked in Corporate America, I learned a lot about when it is and is not beneficial to centralize and de-centralize processes. With something as complex as healthcare, it is ridiculously wasteful to expect 50 states to each set up their own healthcare organizations.
15. Senator Cassidy said that people are fear-mongering. If the definition of fear-mongering is panicking to a heightened degree, then yes, I'm fear-mongering, because my will to live is very strong. My will to save others is even stronger. That's why I value all life. This bill does not value life, and that's why I oppose it. Join me in that opposition! You will sleep much better at night, and your constituents will call you their hero. No amount of political advertising can compete with that for getting votes. Come on, do the right thing and vote no for Graham-Cassidy.

Very best regards,

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why Graham-Cassidy will kill my niece and bankrupt my family

If the objective is to repeal/replace the ACA, it must be replaced with something *better* than the ACA. The Graham-Cassidy bill is horrifically worse than the ACA. Here's why:

1. It will kill my beloved disabled 5-year old niece Olivia (pictured below). Because she is medically complex and fragile, she qualifies for a waiver that allows her to use Medicaid as her secondary insurance. Anything that her parents' insurance won't pay for is covered by Medicaid.Including her \$350,000 per year miracle drug that is saving her life. She is thriving with this treatment. If you ask her what she wants to be when she grows up, she will tell you she either wants to be an engineer or an astronaut. Under Medicaid, there's no doubt in my mind that she will grow up to be a highly contributing adult. Don't remove her chance at life.
2. It will bankrupt my family. We will gladly liquidate everything to pay for her care. She's worth it. But we won't be able to sustain that for more than the first year. The Medicaid expansion drastically reduced the numbers of bankruptcies in America. Don't return us to those days.
3. It was not created in regular order. It was created by someone who hasn't even been a senator for more than 10 years, Rick Santorum, who ran into Lindsey Graham at the barber shop and convinced him to sponsor this bill. There have been no expert hearings on it, and no public hearings on it. More than 88% of the public opposes this. It was created in secret, in a hurry.
4. It is being pushed heavily by those who want to get their promised millions from the Koch Brothers if they can check the box that says, "Repeal ACA."
5. There is no complete CBO analysis. ...1/6 of the US budget, and it doesn't deserve thorough analysis? Out of respect for the millions of Americans that you will be killing or bankrupting with this bill, we deserve a thorough analysis.
6. Millions will be uninsured. When people lose their insurance, death rates go up. The Graham-Cassidy bill will lead to death for those who can't afford to get care until their pain is so bad it's too late.
7. Premiums will go up. As a senior on a fixed income, I can't afford that.
8. Essential Health Benefits will be redefined into something looser, and that's how pre-existing condition coverage will fly out of the door. My dear friend with metastatic breast cancer has been at stage 4 for 6 years because of good insurance. With Graham-Cassidy, she now will have to pay a surcharge each year of \$172,000. Who has that kind of money?
9. Medical device companies get billions of dollars in tax cuts. But many Americans will go bankrupt as a result. How can you live with that travesty?
10. Normal people like me cannot understand how any senator could possibly support this bill. -And then we remember that senators' health care insurance is much better than ours, and you won't have to host a Go-Fund-Me page to pay for your healthcare.
11. This bill will decimate medicaid. Medicaid saves lives. It saves the lives of the elderly who out-live their savings. It saves the lives of the disabled. It saves the lives of poor children.
12. Block grants do not work. They don't account for inflation or medical emergencies. They bring back caps. One bad accident or illness, and we've reached our annual and/or our lifetime cap.
13. Taking money away from some states and giving it to other states is the most un-American thing I've heard in a long time. Particularly when you realize the states it's taking the money from are mostly blue, and the red states benefit.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Collins, David L <collins@utexas.edu>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: brief statement re Graham-Cassidy

(1) "national" - just to mention some of the "A's":

AARP
American Medical Association
American Psychiatric Association
Avalere Health

... have all expressed concerned opposition to the pending Graham-Cassidy legislation, especially on content but also on purportedly "democratic" legislative process grounds.

Having the Senate in Washington enact national healthcare policies which our country's health care providers and institutions understand to be harmful is, frankly, a travesty.

(2) "personal" -

My young adult daughter has been covered through my insurance via the ACA provision. She became seriously ill last year following a medical procedure error (she was sent home with a post-surgical infection). Had she delayed for ONE HOUR returning to the hospital because of financial hesitations, she would now be barren. Had she delayed for one day, she'd be dead.

As a wealthiest nation in the history of the world, it is an embarrassment and obscenity that we do not as a country take better care of the health of all our citizens.

sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ray Hatcher [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy ACA reform bill

Senators:

I write today to voice my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy ACA reform bill. I base this on my experience dealing with many, many clients relying on both Medicaid and health insurance.

First, the provisions of the bill dealing with Medicaid will ultimately lead to removing the poorest of Americans from the Medicaid rolls. While this may seem like a good way to reduce spending, it will ultimately have the opposite effect. One of the greatest benefits of Medicaid is that it allows these poorest Americans access to preventative medicine, which the science and data clearly show reduces healthcare costs. It is a simple fact that a \$20.00 flu shot is exponentially less expensive than a ER visit to treat the flu. In addition, without access to Medicaid, these poor Americans will not be able to seek treatment by primary care doctors. This will result in them seeking treatment in hospital ERs for maladies that could have been treated by a PCP at a fraction of the cost. Being as these folks are poor to begin with, those ER bills will not be paid and the burden will ultimately end up on the tax payer. Simply put, this bill is a terrible deal financially as it will ultimately create uninsured persons whose treatment will then burden taxpayers.

Second, this bill will cause health insurance premiums to skyrocket as it removes protections provided by the ACA and it injects uncertainty into the insurance marketplace. As a small business owner (32 employees), my firm provides health insurance coverage to our employees. We are currently trying to renew our health insurance for 2018. Guess what? We cannot get quotes for coverage because this congress continues try to repeal the ACA with terrible bills such as this. Insurance hates uncertainty. This bill (and the others recently put forth) creates uncertainty as no one even knows the extent of what its affects will be - it does not even have a CBO score. Who can blame the insurance carriers from not wanting to commit to a premium when they don't even know what the situation may be next month?

In closing, I implore you to vote NO on this bill if brought to a vote before the CBO has a chance to evaluate it. Otherwise, you are voting for something that you have no accurate idea as to what its affects may be. Please stop for a moment and contemplate the folly taking such a foolish action.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Stone [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My Statement on Health Care

Hello,

My name is Mark Stone, my wife and I are small business owners who have a 23 year old autistic daughter that lives at home with us.

Both my wife and I had insurance when we worked for different companies. We lost that insurance when we started our own businesses and could not get re-insured due to pre-existing conditions until the ACA was enacted.

Since the ACA my wife has been hospitalized 4 times and even though our premiums have gone up we've still been able to afford our coverage.

Our daughter has been on Medicaid since she was 6 years old and while it is not perfect it has served her needs well enough.

From reading the Cassidy-Graham bill I am now very scared for the future coverage for my wife and I and our daughter.

I am urging my Senators and the committee to vote no on Cassidy-Graham and to go back to trying to find a bipartisan solution that will stand over time not be redone with every shift in power in Washington. Ideally we would like to see a single-payer solution but more importantly we want to lower our premiums, deductibles and increase our coverage.

Thanks for your time,

Mark Stone
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mara Yollick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for SFC Hearing

We cannot afford skyrocketing insurance premiums. I am a 54-year-old survivor of uterine cancer and I am diabetic. My 31-year-old son is a fourteen-year survivor of leukemia and he still requires extremely expensive daily medication and frequent doctor visits and tests.

Our medical bills are substantial. Our insurance with Blue Cross has helped us survive financially. If you destroy our insurance and we lose our coverage because we can't pay impossibly high premiums, you are endangering my life and you are most certainly endangering my son's life.

I have lived in Texas for 40 years and I have voted in Texas in every election. I have often voted Republican. If you destroy our healthcare, I can assure you I will never vote Republican again in my lifetime.

You are threatening my child's well-being. You no longer deserve my support or my vote.

Very sincerely,

Tamara Yollick

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
Sent with [Postbox](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott Harris [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:35 PM
To: gchcomments; Tamie Stewart
Subject: ACA replacement comments

My partner Tamie Stewart purchased health insurance for the first time in decades through the ACA. She works very hard in a profession that has never given employer-sponsored health insurance and the cost was prohibitive. She makes too much for a subsidy but was able to buy a reasonable plan on the exchange. During the initial screening, it was discovered that she had a large, malignant endometrial tumor. The cancer was caught early enough that it was removed entirely with surgery and last year she was pronounced cancer-free. But for the ACA she would have died bankrupt. Instead, she returned to work after 5 weeks and has worked, contributing to the economy and continuing to pay her insurance premiums. Although there has not been adequate public review of the Graham Cassidy bill, a terrible thing in and of itself, but from what I gather, she would certainly have not been able to afford coverage at all under this bill. Passing this bill will kill Americans. Passing this bill will increase bankruptcy due to medical expenses. Passing this bill will hurt healthcare providers and drive up the budget deficit. The Graham Cassidy bill is bad for America and for Americans.

Dale Scott Harris
[REDACTED]
Cedar Creek, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Bookman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: United States Senate
Subject: GCH Comment

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

- **Americans with disabilities** rely on Medicaid, and the per capita caps and cuts included in Graham-Cassidy will jeopardize our health, threaten our independence, and put lives at risk.
- The Medicaid cuts in Graham-Cassidy will limit access to home and community-based services, which will result in **more disabled people and older adults being forced into costly institutions. You will not be saving anything!**
- Allowing states to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions will make coverage unaffordable for many - **and many of those are Americans with disabilities.**

For the sake of all Americans, not just the wealthy and those who *think* they are doing okay for now, please do not support this horrible and ill-conceived bill. Disability is a natural part of living. It is not supposed to be an American curse. Elected public servants will choose to support and improve what we already have now or pay later -- with your legacy to blame.

Sandra Bookman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

cc: Senator John Cornyn - Texas
Senator Ted Cruz - Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: N Crowther [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO to healthcare reform

I believe your actions will seriously hurt the millions of people, seniors, disabled, children...vote NO for Graham/Cassidy

Nancy Crowther
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I believe in Christianity as
I believe that the sun has risen,
not only because I see it,
but, because by it,
I see everything else.
~ C.S. Lewis

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristi McGarity [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy public comment

Dear Senators,

Thank you for holding a hearing on the Graham-Cassidy amendment.

Please be aware that Graham-Cassidy does NOT cover pre-existing conditions. If you read p. 12-14, section 106(B), it says states must "intend" to provide "affordable and adequate" basic coverage for "people with" pre-existing conditions.

It does not define "adequate," nor does it say the coverage has to cover treatment for the pre-existing condition. In fact, paragraph (III) specifically says that it does not.

Lives depend on getting this wording right. Please return to bipartisan hearings. Bipartisan negotiations work. This bill kills people, especially children with disabilities that insurance will no longer have to cover (in waiver states).

Prescription and maternity coverage also need to remain federal Essential Health Benefits. You can't say an unborn child is a person, then say maternity coverage shouldn't be required. How else do unborn children get medical care?

Prescription coverage is essential because medications that keep people alive - especially people with autoimmune conditions - are very expensive.

It does no good to have a doctor visit for an autoimmune condition, if you do not have coverage for the prescriptions.

Graham-Cassidy would allow insurers in waiver states to stop selling prescription coverage entirely - even in employer-based insurance, not just the individual market.

Please, you must address these issues in any legislation on health care.

Lives depend on your actions. Please do the right thing.

Thank you,
Kristi McGarity
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie McGuyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill

Please vote no for this bill. I live in Texas, the state with the highest uninsured rate in the nation, a state that that spends millions of dollars fighting against women receiving healthcare now. I have no faith in the men who are in office due to our crooked gerrymandering system being capable of designing a decent healthcare bill in two years.(2020) I am a 56 year old woman with a pre existing condition, who does not receive any tax credits under the ACA, and while I agree the ACA needs fixing it is certainly better than what this bill promises. I currently pay over 20 % of my income for premiums. I don't think I will be able to pay for your insurance plan. The CBO score is not even out on this bill, how can you vote yes for this?

My husband had a stroke several years ago, thanks to the ACA there was no lifetime limit on his insurance, as his medical bills were well over a \$1,000,000. You are going to put my retirement in jeopardy if you approve this bill.. As one serious illness will bankrupt me. Please do the right thing for the people of this country vote no. Go to regular order, go to a bipartisan plan.

Debbie McGuyer
Spring, TX

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda Drabek [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony on Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Finance Committee:

My sister has type 1 diabetes, which means she needs insulin to stay alive. She currently purchases health insurance on the ACA exchanges. She runs her own small business which provides therapy to special needs kids. She makes very little money doing this but she makes a future for these kids. If the Graham-Cassidy bill is passed, her career and healthcare will be uncertain. She lives in Indiana. If Indiana chooses to allow health insurance companies to charge more or deny insurance to those with preexisting conditions then my sister will lose her insurance. She will need to quit her small business in order to hopefully find a large company that provides insurance. Most companies that employ special needs therapists do not provide health insurance. They're small companies just trying to help their patients. I honestly do not know what my sister will do if she cannot get insurance on the individual market. I do not know what her patients will do. Most people with disabilities are supported with Medicaid funding, which this bill cuts significantly. The majority of my sister's small business revenue comes from Medicaid. This bill would end her business even if she herself didn't need insurance. The Medicaid cuts in this bill will not just ruin the lives of people with disabilities, it will kill jobs and entire medical service industries as people can no longer afford the care they need.

I urge the Finance Committee to consider the absurd costs of this bill to the US economy and to the US citizen such as my little sister. And I urge the Senate to reject this bill.

Amanda Drabek
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

re-impose lifetime limits, explode premiums (even in private plans), and push patients into high-risk pools where they would not be able to receive adequate treatment. This bill would be another heartbreak on top of what we have already endured.

Bert is courageously battling this disease as a young father, while still litigating full-time on behalf of economic liberty, property rights and school choice; issues that conservatives support. The ACA protections that allowed him to receive four months of a new, more effective chemo induction protocol and a stem cell transplant at MD Anderson saved his life. The cost was well over \$1,500,000 million, and that was before his now-monthly maintenance chemo prescriptions (approximately \$18K/month), required bone marrow biopsies, PET scans, and other procedures he needs to beat the grim life expectancy of 3-5 years for this cancer. All told, he incurs about \$250,000 a year in treatment costs to stay alive.

Thankfully most of this is covered by his insurance, a UnitedHealthcare PPO. Access to these innovative drugs and close monitoring may keep him with us for 10, 15, or 20 years longer. It will be expensive, but we are comforted with the knowledge that right now, with the Affordable Care Act mandates, that access and coverage is protected.

However, the most recent estimate using CMS data predicts our yearly premium would skyrocket to \$72,000 or more for his type of cancer if ACA is repealed. His PPO would also be able to cap payments for his treatments, then will no longer cover them. We will blow through that limit in a just a few years. Yet nothing is being done to make these treatments and costs more affordable – so we'll lose protections, and have no recourse.

That is not a fair and free market. That is NOT competition. Bert will have to stop working and go on Medicaid, becoming a drag on taxpayers and likely having to forego treatment. Our family, like others struggling with a chronic disease in their 30s and 40s, will be forced to choose bankruptcy. Some will choose to end their lives, faced with no access to treatment. This is the exactly the opposite of what any reasonable conservative would want.

Young patients with chronic illnesses such as cancer, diabetes, MS, and kidney disease are playing the long game, facing decades of treatment. They go to their jobs every day, pay taxes and insurance premiums, and want to be around to watch their children grow up.

If a Democrat and a conservative libertarian can make their marriage work, uniting together to fight this terrible disease every day, I know the Senate can write a bill in a way that doesn't devastate us further with unintended consequences. Your influence as the leader of this Committee is powerful. Please give this bill give it the hearings, transparency and due diligence that Americans deserve.

We will be watching the next steps in the Senate closely and encouraging our friends and family to share our story. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Anna Bell Gall

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Bell Gall <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment for record: Young cancer patient (Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Proposal 9/25)
Attachments: CancerPatient.RGall.9_25_17 GrahamCassidyRecord.pdf

Dear Committee Staff,

I respectfully request that this letter, attached and below, be entered into the official record for the hearing on 9/25/17, the "Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal".

September 22, 2007

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Chairman
The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance, United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden,

I am the wife of a 44-year-old cancer patient, Bert Gall, who is a lifelong, proud free-market conservative and constitutional attorney. He was unexpectedly diagnosed with multiple myeloma last year, a blood cancer which is terminal. But there are many new treatments to extend his life here with our three-year-old son and me. We pray constantly it will be long enough to see a cure.

I write today with grave concerns about the Graham-Cassidy bill, in advance of the Committee's hearing on September 25. There is no denying that the current ACA law needs substantial improvement. There is hard work to be done to strengthen the law's shortcomings and encourage a strong health insurance market. However, this bill contains *zero* reforms to the underlying problem of stratospheric prices for drugs, procedures and treatments. And the state "waivers", which Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has already said he would request immediately, would force our family to return to a time whereby patients with pre-existing conditions could be charged more for their coverage, or denied treatment due to annual or lifetime caps even after faithfully paying their premiums -- while simultaneously weakening the rules for what lifesaving benefits are guaranteed.

With every fiber of my being, I strongly urge the Senate Finance Committee to use its authority and jurisdictional powers to hold additional, open hearings and convene a fulsome debate on the legislation. Millions of young cancer patients have absolutely no idea whether there are provisions in the draft bill that would undermine protections for them and others with chronic conditions that are treatable, but costly.

Specifically, the Senate must soundly reject the Graham-Cassidy provisions that would allow states like Texas to void the pre-existing and essential benefit guarantees. The "waiver" would have frightening unintended consequences for patients like my husband, allowing insurance companies to

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Warren Robinson [redacted]@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

I am writing to urge the Finance Committee to oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. The legislation does not have a CBO score, will not truly protect Americans with pre existing conditions, and does not expand access to healthcare or health insurance. I urge the Committee to support regular order and find a bipartisan path forward.

Warren Robinson
[redacted]
[redacted]

--
[redacted]
[redacted]@gmail.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Belinda Castillo [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-johnson proposal

Senators,

I am concerned with the possibility of state having the option to allow insurance companies to not cover pre existing conditions or pricing a person out of ins. Please reconsider this bill and work with and for us.

Belinda Castillo
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

I am an American citizen, resident of Texas and I do NOT want the Graham-Cassidy Bill to pass. I believe it will be detrimental to the people of this country.

Thank you,
Rebecca Ramos

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leah Beltran [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid and the implications of this current proposal Graham-Cassidy

Dear Sirs,

You should know that what you are proposing threatens the lives of millions who depend on Medicaid to live. My son has a progressive, fatal disease. Without specialists who understand his disease, this proposal could be life threatening. As it stands, he cannot get the care he needs with privatized Medicaid. If he had no Medicaid at all, he would have to resort to using an emergency room where they would not be able to treat him. If we were to find a way to get him on private insurance who will accept him if you do away the pre-existing clause? Inhaled anesthesia could kill him. He needed a surgery here in our community, but the surgeons wouldn't touch him because of the specialized care that he needs. His disease effects his lungs and his heart. Without this care to maintain both, we will watch him slowly slip away. Why would you want to cut services to those who need it the most? How is our family and millions of other families supposed to get the care they need if you essentially decimate Medicaid? Stop making cuts to the most vulnerable citizens of this United States! How can you do this with a clear conscience?

Vote no to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

Thank you,

Leah Beltran

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] inc.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 70602
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] pg

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terri Robson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: cruz@senate.gov; cornyn@senate.gov
Subject: Heathcare statement for Hearing Monday September 25, 2017

· Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
· Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
· Terri Robson
· [REDACTED] TX-77573

To the Republicans, to the Committee,

This 3rd attempt to boost your own party at the expense of millions of Americans, many with life threatening illnesses and chronic conditions, needs to end.

My son has a chronic disease that will kill him without affordable medications and proactive treatment. He didn't ask for it. He didn't do anything to make it happen. It just chose him. And we deal with it but you are threatening him with a slow death sentence if remove his ability to afford or be accepted on an insurance plan.

This new healthcare attempt at redistributing money out of healthcare to the advantage of the wealthy is a crime to all citizens. We know that most elderly people will have medical issues at some point and we are all going to be elderly. We need to support our citizens from birth till death. Not just those that have more money than others. We need all people in the health pool for their entire lives, not just when the need strikes.

Our government is supposed to support the needs of and work for the people, not just the wealthy corporations with buying power to our statesman. This political play is not a negotiation but a bullying tactic and has no place in our government.

The mental health of our nation could really stand a break by fixing the issues with the ACA and dropping the fight for a less beneficial solution. Doing the right thing is not the easy thing in most cases. It may mean someone won't get elected again.

There are many citizens that don't understand the implications of what is going on, they blindly are devoted to a mission that will ultimately destroy them. The role of government should be to protect them from a bad outcome, just as our government protects us against outside forces, it should protect us from the devastation from within.

Vote NO to this abomination of a healthcare bill that does not represent healthcare. This is a financial manipulation. Lets make health care really about the health of america.

Vote NO to continuing the destruction of our long term health as a country. We are sicker than ever as a population and being stripped of the ability to heal through this sick legislation.

Vote NO to taking away women's healthcare rights.

Vote NO to hurting our elderly, youth, handicapped, and poor.

Vote NO.... just do the right thing.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Meredith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Considering what the Republican government has done in its attempt to destroy the Affordable Care Act up to this point, it should come as no surprise that their latest attempt is even worse than the others that preceded it.

Most states didn't take advantage of the federal funds that were given out under the ACA. The states cannot and will not be allowed to use those block grants for health care needs, because they will not do so. I don't trust my state's leaders to look out for my best interest as they have shown me time and time again they don't care about my interests.

I have had a pre-existing condition for 39 years. My type-1 diabetes is under control as best I can manage it by myself. I see a doctor on a regular basis and get my medication needs taken care of. But when I didn't have health insurance for a decade of those 39 years, I had my first complication...\$8000 cataract surgery. If that were to happen to me now, I would either end up blind or have to declare bankruptcy...neither of which appeal to me.

Nor am I ready to die yet. So tell the Senate to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Meredith Ryan
Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Guercio [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy/Heller/Johnson Bill

I have followed Republican attempts to repeal and replace the ACA and each succeeding bill has been worse than its predecessor. You had a viable, bi-partisan effort going on with the HELP discussion in Lamar Alexander's committee, but that wasn't good enough. Why? Your goal is to placate your big donors and to free up revenue for more tax cuts. America has 320 million people - all of whom need health care. That is the priority you should focus upon.

One committee hearing is not "regular order", and the people of America see it clearly as a sham. Health care is serious and it impacts everyone who lives in our country. If you have not clearly recognized the anxiety of the American people on this issue, you are not listening.

I am not opposed to changes to the ACA. I am "for" health care that is affordable, available to all, and offers quality benefits. America stands alone among our international industrialized colleagues in not providing universal health care. It strips productivity, it reduces people's financial security, and it is irresponsible. Medical underwriting defeats coverage of pre-existing health conditions. Block granting revenue with caps ignores population needs and shifts.

I am sure this committee will vote this bill out. I will work to elect people who understand that health care is not a game to be played or a means to find revenue to fund more tax cuts. Conversely, that implies that I will work to remove all who play games with people's health.

Mary Lib Guercio

18 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Keem57 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

We demand and expect a no vote on Graham Cassidy bill.

Graham-Cassidy would remove all subsidies to help moderate and low-income people afford insurance, slash Medicaid, undermine protections for pre-existing conditions and eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood. There would be 32 million fewer Americans with insurance,

Thank you,
Kim Jones
America was already great
Texas
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenni Holton [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

As an oncology nurse and patient advocate, I am writing you in support of the Affordable Care Act and in opposition to the Graham Cassidy proposal or any other measures to weaken the protections provided by ACA. The Graham Cassidy proposal cuts coverage and raises premiums for millions and provides no guarantee of preexisting condition coverages. I have many patients that would be affected by these changes, with potential disastrous consequences.

As a Texan, I am also alarmed by the estimate economic impacts on my state and its hospitals. Texas has a large rural areas with already very limited hospital options for most of these areas. These hospitals will suffer potentially catastrophic losses, with closure likely, which will further limit the options for rural patients. Rural hospitals are often major employers in the areas they are located; their closure would increase already high unemployment rates in rural Texas.

I implore you to do everything possible to continue bipartisan efforts to improve and strengthen ACA and strongly urge you to oppose Graham Cassidy and any other efforts to weaken/repeal ACA.

Jennifer Holton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], TX 75000

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carly Cera [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: do not repeal or replace ACA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a voting constituents of Senators Cornyn and Cruz, living in Austin, TX 78728.

First of all, a vote on the Graham-Cassidy bill before the CBO has finished their assessment of it is irresponsible. This is a massive healthcare bill and the American people deserve to understand its impact on the public.

Unlike the ACA, this bill does not earmark any money specifically for low-income consumers' healthcare costs. These subsidies are lifesaving. Likewise, ending Medicaid expansion in just a few years is detrimental to the affordability of healthcare of millions of Americans.

While insurance companies might still have to cover those with pre-existing conditions, allowing them to charge them a higher than normal premium is cruelty in action.

Vote no on the terrible Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Carly Cera

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Senate Finance Committee members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham Cassidy bill and request yet again that you return to regular process and focus on improving ACA rather than serving wealthy donors. All evidence points to ACA working, but just needing improvement —which I hope you will do in a bipartisan fashion.

Please stop playing with people's lives in the interest of serving the 1% and earning political points with an uninformed base. Please listen to every major health organization that underscores how horrible this bill is.

Thank you.

Alisa Perren
Austin, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristen Pellegrino [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill

Please oppose this bill!!!

First, it is crazy to even consider this bill when:

1. Medicaid directors from ALL 50 states have come out against this. You couldn't get ALL 50 state Medicaid directors to agree any anything else in health care policy.
2. Every patient group opposes this bill.
3. Every provider group opposes this bill.
4. Upwards of 30 million people will lost their health coverage under this bill.

Please represent us well and stop trying to hurt us!!!

Kristen Pellegrino

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Bettoney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal ACA

I have family in Massachusetts. ACA is simply a national version of the healthcare plan established in Massachusetts by Governor Romney, a Republican. We have seen the benefits of the Massachusetts healthcare plan.

I live in Texas. We have world-famous medical centers, and the worst outcome for pregnant women in the developed world. Most people here simply can't afford life-saving treatments, even those with full-time jobs.

ACA isn't perfect, but the proposed national plan is far worse, and opposed by healthcare professionals.

Please vote "no" on repealing the ACA.

Catherine Bettoney
Clute, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dianne Gmail [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

I am writing about the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. Very little about this bill is productive.

First, Congress should follow regular order to allow everyone on both sides of the aisle to discuss, have input, and fully understand the bill. Such a public discussion will help your constituents understand what you will be doing to or for us. Before a vote is taken, the CBO should have adequate time to score this bill.

Second, the language you've included regarding pre-existing conditions is immoral. Yes, you require insurance companies to cover pre-existing conditions, but you allow them to charge whatever they want. This will price me out of the market with severe osteoporosis and arthritis. I will require another hip replacement and knee replacement and my back is looking more and more like it will need surgery. You are putting our families at risk and people will die. You used to speak of "death panels." This is just another version of that concept.

Third, you are systematically doing away with Medicaid. Your cuts will sharply reduce the number of people who will be able to use this program. But these are the very people who will be priced out of insurance. And many of our elderly be unable to receive quality care in nursing homes.

This bill will not bring healthcare to more Americans. Without the CBO score, it appears more than 30 million Americans will lose their coverage.

The very point of insurance is that the healthy subsidize the sick. But at some point we ALL will become the old and sick. Not covering ALL Americans is WRONG. Mr. Trump promised a program that would cover everyone and would not only be cheaper, but better than the ACA. THIS is NOT that program.

Please VOTE NO ON GRAHAM -CASSIDY. Instead return to regular order and work bipartisanly to REPAIR the ACA.

Thank you.

Dianne Bolzenius

[REDACTED]
2015 Newport Shore
Houston, TX [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: danny braaten <dannybraaten12@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not support the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is a huge step in the wrong direction for health care in the U.S. The reports indicate that the legislation will cause millions of Americans to lose access to health care. This is egregious and immoral and should be opposed.

thanks

Daniel Braaten
San Antonio, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristen Pellegrino [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

Please stop proposing health care bills that will hurt thousands of Americans. If you can not improve the health care bill, please embrace Affordable Care Act and improve that bill.

Sincerely,
Kristen Pellegrino
San Antonio, TX [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Krause <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Sen.Cornyn@opencongress.org; Sen.Cruz@opencongress.org
Subject: strong opposition to Graham Cassidy

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Graham Cassidy.

While we do not have a CBO score, based on past analysis that can be extrapolated, it would surely result in millions uninsured. And as a citizen and tax payer, I find it objectionable and unacceptable that a hearing would be hold without a CBO score. We're talking about the health, lives, and finances of the American people.

Block granting/capping Medicaid will pit seniors against children and people with disabilities. And to limit states' abilities to pay for people with pre-existing conditions, maternity care, contraception and so on and so on would be a huge step backward and will have unintended consequences.

My family, which includes my sister with intellectual disabilities and children with asthma (well controlled, but a pre-existing condition) would be directly affected.

Health care needs fundamental structural change in the US. I've worked in health policy and public health for 15 years. But we can do better than this and I encourage a more thoughtful bipartisan solution that results in more people getting quality affordable care. Until then, NO on Graham Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Krause
Austin, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Adair <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care/Medicaid

Good morning,

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to discuss the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill with you and I thank you for taking the time to review this issue. I am only one longtime tax-paying American citizen, but it is important that I let you know how very wrong for the American public this bill is. This bill has been written for the purpose of partisan politics only. There is nothing about this bill intended to help the majority of the American public. Last year I retired after working forty eight years hoping to spend some time enjoying my life. That is not happening because every day there is are numerous attempts being made to destroy this country that I love. This is not who we are. This is not what we do. We have gone from being the most respected country in the world to being the least respected, and everyone that supports the daily lying, grifting and other atrocities is part of the problem, Please, become a part of the solution.

This healthcare bill is designed to leave the very young, very poor, very ill, and the elderly without health care. You might as well be tying stones around these peoples necks and throwing them into the ocean. If you have a heart, or a soul, you know this is true. This is not who we are. This is not what we do. We have been blessed for many years because we were a caring, giving, loving society. Those blessings have ended. We are becoming desensitized to wrongdoing. Please, no more. I do not mind paying taxes to help people. less fortunate than I. I do mind paying taxes to make the wealthy people in this country even more wealthy. Please, no more.

Cynthia Adair
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Yleana Martinez <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

All senators who will vote on this horrific bill:

Please vote NO! This is an ill-considered, not fully threshed-out bill! It is bad, and more than a dozen reputable medical associations have said this bill is bad, bad, bad for America.

DON'T DO IT! Your constituents, at least the ones are who low-income, ill, and don't have trust funds, will remember this at the polls.

Yleana Martinez
Austin, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Peticolas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill would cause havoc

Dear Members of the Finance Committee,

All 50 state Medicaid directors oppose Graham-Cassidy. Virtually every medical association and industry player opposes it. The disabled oppose it. Nursing homes oppose it. There are so MANY reasons this is the case.

Graham-Cassidy would be a self-inflicted wound to this country that will affect EVERY community adversely. It will cause businesses to fail. It will cause people to die. It will wreck families. It will destroy jobs. It will throw the medical system and state governments into crisis. It may or may not hurt you personally, but it WILL hurt someone you know personally and will probably hurt someone within your extended family in some way.

If you want to repeal Obamacare, do it next session with thought, consideration, and using the regular order.

Sincerely,
Anne Peticolas

[REDACTED]
A [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Tate <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Ann Tate
4 [REDACTED] Amber Lake Dr
[REDACTED]
2 [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charlene Shafer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

The Graham-Cassidy bill is even worse than the other bills that have attempted to repeal the ACA. This bill strips healthcare from millions of Americans.. It removes protections for people with pre-existing conditions. It decimates Medicaid. Seniors, people with disabilities, veterans and children will be hurt.

It is time to work in a bipartisan manner to fix the ACA & do what's right for Americans.

Charlene Shafer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Gough [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassady assessment: Unacceptable

The current ACA plan is far superior to Graham-Cassady, which has a disastrous impact on the insured community and unacceptable conditions for opting out of participation. Insurance requires a broad pool in order to work.

Try working with single-payer through expanding Medicare.

John Gough
[REDACTED]
A [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marsha Patterson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I implore you not to sacrifice the health and well being of your fellow Americans on the altar of partisan politics. Be the conscience of your party and the voice for the voiceless, and work together to craft a reasonable, humane health care plan truly accessible to all. Don't scrap the ACA -- work together to fix what needs fixing. Put egos aside and do what's right for the American people of all stripes.

Very sincerely,

Marsha Patterson
Austin, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beverly Archibald [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham cassidy bill

this will be a disaster for me personally and many others whom I know.
Please do not pass it!

Beverly Archibald
Fort Worth, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chrysta Bell Zucht [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony opposing Graham-Cassidy Bill

I would like to make my voice heard and share with you that my family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Obamacare is not perfect, but Rome wasn't built in a day!

The Graham-Cassidy bill is extremely concerning and alarming. Please, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Chrysta Bell

Austin, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise Patla [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A voter's thoughts on GrahamCassidy - please do NOT pass

Dear Senate Finance Committee

I am a college-educated, newly retired voter from the State of Texas. I am urging support among the Committee to vote "No" on the Graham/Cassidy healthcare bill.

I am not going to use this plea to reiterate the many reasons why this bill is bad for America. And I will put aside my anger that it's authors must know how awful this bill is as they are trying to ram it through, outside of regular order, and disallowing any amendments, or public debates.

Let me simply point out the obvious contempt the Republicans are showing towards the American voter.

Most of us understand the complexity of healthcare. But we don't support an effort to "repeal and replace" if the desired outcome is simply to "repeal and replace" *without* producing a bill resulting in tangible, improvements to our healthcare. Why not be honest with the American people? **Explain the difficulty in the "repeal and replace" task, form a bipartisan committee to adjust the ACA and get to work serving the American people.**

You fail to understand American voters are not *merely* looking for a "win" but for actual results from a Congress willing to work across party lines. Your cynicism and dishonest is stunning.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Regards,

Denise Patla
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John House [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy healthcare

Again with the old white curmudgeons?
This is a Depolrable excuse to disenfranchise poor people.
I'm against it by the way....

Rev. John House

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bill Gaventa [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I am having lunch today with a father with one daughter who is multiply disabled. Recently, they were denied coverage by a Medicaid based program in Texas for families with disabled children, Star Kids. They are appealing, and have a good chance, but this is exactly the kind of program that would be endangered in the future if Graham Cassidy is passed and becomes law. The supports they have gotten through the program (this was a denial for continuance) has enabled this father to work in his role as a professor at Baylor University and his wife to work as well. Hear his words directly:

As for the matter at hand....My youngest daughter, Monica, will be ten years old next week . She has a rare neurological disorder: lissencephaly with pachygyria and a host of related co-morbidities including intractable epilepsy (she's having daily cluster seizures and requires rectal rescue medicine twice a week), severe central sleep apnea and obstructive sleep apnea, psychiatric conditions that recently required two weeks of hospitalization at Cook Children's, global developmental delay, low muscle tone and global weakness resulting in difficulty walking, choking, and a general inability to care for herself. She is incontinent. She has profound intellectual disability. There's more but you get the idea. She has long been on the Medically Dependent Children's Program and recently had her annual re-evaluation. Late last week we learned that she was given a 'pending denial' – the claim is that she does not meet the criteria for nursing home care and is thus ineligible for the program. We have 14 business days from Sept 5 to submit further documentation. We are scrambling to do that now. If the denial becomes official, then we have the right to request a 'fair status hearing.' My understanding is that this will happen rather quickly, but that we are allowed to have counsel present for the hearing. We certainly hope it doesn't come to that – and if you have any advice as to how to keep it from coming to that, I'd certainly appreciate it.

MDCP provides Medicaid services for us, which serves as her secondary insurance. It also provides attendant care which provides assistance with her ADLs (which she cannot perform herself) and makes it possible for us to function as a family. She requires one-on-one care and cannot be left unattended. So if supper is going to get cooked or our older daughter is going to get taken care of, etc. someone has to be with Monica. Losing MDCP benefits...I can't even go there in terms of how it would affect our family life.

If Monica was institutionalized, her care would cost much more, and she would also lose the critical environment of a loving family.

Besides being a pre-existing condition, the long term cuts to Medicaid services not only jeopardize families like this one, but also people with disabilities and the elderly who are in long term care services., I began my career working in one of the large hell-hole institutions for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, one that now, thankfully, is closed. Those were awful places. Some good staff, to be sure, and pockets of good care, but the isolation and loneliness was crippling to so many, and the resident staff ration led to almost inevitable hardening of staff attitudes and care.

Currently, in Texas, the legislature just voted to lower the Medicaid reimbursement rate to a number of private providers of services, meaning they will probably go out of business. The pay rate for direct care staff is already just slightly above Texas minimum pay.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nguyen, Hoai-Phuong [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not Repeal and Replace OBAMACARE

Please do not let Graham Cassidy and the rest of the horrible GOPs throw 32 million Americans under the bus.

Please put the American people and country first, not party.

Thank you!

Hoai P. Nguyen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Graduate Admissions
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] edu
[REDACTED]



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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sig Izbrand <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GOP Obamacare replacement

NO to this disastrous plan. Please work on a bipartisan solution. This isn't about your political agenda; these are the lives and futures of We the People.

Thank you.

Shirley Izbrand
San Antonio, Texas

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maggie McLean <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment from constituent

Please do not proceed with this bill without more hearings and stakeholder input. It's time to put partisan politics behind us. Both parties have done it but we need to stop the blame game, and work together to find compromises and get government functional back on track. The Senate is the last bastion of democracy, please return to regular order with committee hearings and amendments.

I'm so tired of fighting and advocating; so very, very tired. My daughter has spinal muscular atrophy, type 2. When she received the diagnosis at age 18 months, it was a death sentence (similar to ALS except in children). We were lucky to get her enrolled in the Medically Dependent Child Program, a Medicaid Waiver in Texas. Having Medicaid as our secondary insurance has saved both my daughter's life and us from medical bankruptcy. Her yearly medical costs are > \$350,000. If G-C bill passes, Texas will surely abolish EHB and let insurance companies re-institute lifetime and yearly caps and likely not use the initial extra money to protect Medicaid.

In Texas, Medicaid is now a managed care program. Children are being kicked off the program (1 in 5) at time of reassessment. My daughter's reassessment is in November and we are so very scared she will be kicked off and then what will we do, especially if G-C is passed? Texas has a long history of diverting money intended for programs away from those programs. The G-C bill has no provisions to protect Medicaid waivers or protect community-based living. Medicaid allows my daughter to live with us in our home and both my husband and I to work. We have not had to rely on more government assistance due to the Medicaid waiver. However, if G-C passes, it is quite possible I'll have to stay home with my daughter or place her in a nursing home since Texas is cutting home-based community money. For some reason, they think it's cheaper to put the disabled and elderly into nursing homes when evidence shows better outcomes and less money spent when the elderly and disabled are able to be cared for at home.

Please don't suggest we move to a more conducive state for better medical benefits. All of our support (and family) is in Texas. I have lived in Texas for all but 4 years of my life (I'm 41) and love Texas.

I'm just so tired of fighting for services, fighting for reasonable health care for my daughter. Please keep ACA and all its protections but improve it. It's based on Republican and conservative ideas and it's working very well in areas of this great country. Republicans and Democrats can work together on this, give Sen. Alexander and Murray more time on a fix to stabilize the ACA market then work to improve it. We don't need to rush this.

It's clear the public does not like this bill, medical providers don't like it, hospitals don't like it, health organizations don't like it. Please listen to us and stop this insanity of rushing to pass a bill without a CBO score and greater stakeholder input.

Sincerely,
Maggie McLean

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynne Aldrich [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am a registered republican. I am opposed to this health care bill that you are trying to slip through without truly giving the American people the opportunity to evaluate. Trying to ram through a health care bill that has not been fully evaluated is morally repugnant and just plain wrong. You folks need to stop bickering and start working for the American people in a bipartisan way.

Obama care did not impact me personally because we retired from a major oil company and have great insurance. But many people have been helped. What you people need to do is stop bickering and pointing fingers...you remind me of my kids when they were little...and start working together for the benefit of the American people. If your not willing to have the coverage you are providing everyone else for yourselves then do not pass it. Preexisting conditions must be covered. Help for the most vulnerable is the only moral thing to do.

Slow down and do it right. Obamacare needs som tweaks and adjustments but do not throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Lynne Aldrich
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: P Ries [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal & replace ACA

I live in Dallas, Tx. I am against repeal & replace of the Affordable Care Act. The LAST thing I want is a hypocrite like Governor Abbott deciding who is covered & not covered for health insurance in my state. This is a man who got a six million dollar settlement after he was paralyzed when a tree fell on him. BTW, he had no health insurance at the time. After he got his millions, he then has tried to limit what others can claim on similar suits. DO NOT GO THROUGH WITH THIS HORRIBLE PLAN. You are supposed to look after US citizens, not make their lives a living hell. Please read the attached & DO WHAT IS RIGHT.

<https://www.texastribune.org/2013/08/04/candidate-faces-questions-turnabout-and-fair-play/>

Sincerely,
Patty Ries

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanna Meek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy/Graham Bill

I am writing in hopes that you will kill this bill before it kills innocent people. My son is 36 years old and was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes when he was 8 years old. His insulin alone is \$1,000.00 a month, and the pump he wears is \$8,000.00, he and his family struggle to pay for his insulin and medical supplies. With this preexisting condition in this medical plan I am afraid he will not be able to afford medical coverage. It is shameful that for the last nine months Americans have had to beg you to do the right thing, but once again I'm begging you for my family. Please do the right thing and put this madness to rest, Americans and my son, deserve so much more than this.

Jeanna Meek
Katy, Texas

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jana darling [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Hello, I'm a mother with pre-existing high blood pressure. My son was born with Autism. Thanks to ACA I'm able to cover him on my employer sponsored health insurance until he's 26. He works at part time job because that's what he's able to do with a disability like his. Again, he was born with Autism. After he's 26, Medicaid is the only way he'll get health insurance. My son is a tax-paying, voting, American citizen. He deserves to be treated as well as the senators and representatives in congress who get to keep tax-payer funded healthcare. The Graham-Cassidy bill is a cruel, greedy, and heartless way to treat US citizens. If the health threat to citizens alone isnt enough, how about the economic costs? If people get sick, can't pay for hospital bills, declare bankruptcy and lose their homes, how does that work for our national economy? Please do what you can to stop Graham Cassidy, if not for the people, for the economic consequences.

Regards,
Jana Darling
Texas

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Perez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not pass this bill

To hold a vote on a bill before the Congressional Budget Office has scored it is extremely risky and short sighted. In pursuit of a win at any cost, lives are out at risk. This is not good government.

Affordable, easily accessible comprehensive healthcare is necessary for all people regardless of politics. The wealthy and destitute both need the same care. Both Republicans and Democrats and apathetic nonvoters all need healthcare. This should not be the issue we disagree on. Everyone knows any of us could get sick or hurt at any time. Let us debate other issues but agree that all people are created equal and deserve to be treated equally. This includes healthcare. This is more important than tax cuts for the wealthy. This is more important than expanding our already bloated military. This is more important than a useless and costly wall.

If healthcare rules are left up to the states the people will not be protected. The states proved this when some refused to expand Medicaid to help their poor. Poor people are still human. They still deserve care. If states leave the details up to the insurers' corporate goodwill, people will not be protected. This is what we had before the Affordable Care Act and people did not receive care. They neglected expensive treatment until they had to go to an emergency room. This drove costs up for everyone.

Premature infants can reach a lifetime cap within their first year of life. These children go on to need many costly therapies. Without access to either Medicaid or affordable comprehensive healthcare these children will not receive these therapies. Without this intervention they can end up a burden on the state into adulthood. Nearly half of Medicaid costs go to nursing homes for the elderly. We are living longer and senior citizens cannot always care for their elderly sick parents. This bill reduces Medicaid over time. This will only hurt people. Medicaid helps so many families and providers caring for children with disabilities. To eliminate Medicaid will not only bankrupt families but also home healthcare small businesses that care for these children.

I understand the Kochs have offered to split \$400 million in campaign contributions amongst Republicans who vote for this bill so they can get the tax cuts they want in a future tax reform bill using the savings from repealing the ACA. This is not right. By the time Medicaid is completely phased out with this bill, many people will have died as a direct result of not having healthcare and the Kochs will have died from old age. There are no winners in repealing the protections of the ACA.

Sarah Perez, TX

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary starling [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill because it will leave millions uninsured. People will still need doctors and hospitals even if they have no insurance. That doesn't change even if they can't pay for it.

Mary Brouillette
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Connor [redacted]@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because if you read it, it essentially guts Medicaid. Our family has an important family member who depends on Medicaid for essential services and supports. She didn't ask to be born with a rare genetic disorder. Don't punish her for this. I implore you to vote this bill down. For us, it is the worst bill of it's kind and ignores what we need in the way of health care. Vote against this bill please.

Amy Connor
Austin, TX 78723

Amy Connor

[redacted]
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Sonntag <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because
I am a 55 year old woman with adult daughters. To not fund birth control is not helpful. More baby's born without prenatal care that is not part of insurance is deplorable.
Kicking poor people off medicaid, people like my elderly in-laws and increasing how much they need to pay for health insurance is un-american.

You are going backwards not forwards with this bill.

Carol Sonntag
Austin, Texas

Carol Sonntag

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve Bailey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

The more research I do on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill, the worse it looks. It would be devastating for the vast majority of Americans. Currently, our family's health insurance premium is the largest bill we pay each month - and that's with insurance through my husband's employer. Shifting more of the costs onto the middle class would be disastrous for America.

I am a breast cancer survivor. My son was born with an endocrine disorder. Currently, our premiums are just manageable. Under Graham-Cassidy, I don't believe we could afford our premiums, deductibles or copays. This would have a direct impact on the health of our family. As long as we are able to get regular care, we can stay healthy. If healthcare costs rise, we would be less likely to remain healthy - and the cost of our care would increase significantly.

The right thing to do for America is to fix the ACA.

Cynthia Cook
Bellville, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Cummings [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I implore the finance committee to reject the Graham-Cassidy Bill because it lacks CBO report and because it is a bad bill.

This bill harms, not helps, Americans like me. I am a cancer survivor and I will be priced out of health coverage in a state that has NOT EXPANDED Medicaid. My health will suffer. My whole quality of life will be diminished if I have to struggle financially to pay premiums that insurance companies reserve for people with re-existing conditions.

We do NOT need a national health plan that is cobbled together on a state-by-state basis. That's nonsense. Americans should not go without health insurance because of the state in which they live. These state legislatures are NOT looking out for citizen's health concerns: they are looking to get re-elected on a foolish states-rights platform.

That leaves American healthcare in the dust. Please stop the Senate from making my healthcare a political football. This is not a game. This is life and death.

Susan Cummings
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Be the Change You Wish to See in the World ~ Gandhi

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Holst <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

This is NOT a good bill.

- 1) Congress should not hold a vote on something that affects 1/6 of the economy WITHOUT a CBO score.
- 2) Affordable premiums for those with pre-existing conditions are NOT guaranteed.
- 3) Medicaid is drastically reduced!
- 4) This bill does not add more insured, but actually reduces the number of insured by over 30 million.
- 5) Pays for tax cuts rather than insuring people.

Please do not pass this bill. I have a feeling that the people that lose their insurance, and those that experience significant premium increases, will be voting in the next election. Most notable will be seniors (who vote) that experience much higher premiums and/or loss of insurance.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jen Barwick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on current healthcare bill
Attachments: image1.jpeg; ATT00001.txt; image2.jpeg; ATT00002.txt

My beautiful boy, Kenyon, has cerebral palsy—a pre-existing condition. He deserves good, affordable health insurance coverage, same as anyone.

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

Sincerely,
Jennifer Barwick
Round Rock, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Caroline's Email <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote against Graham-Cassidy Bill

Sirs:

I wish to express my outrage that yet again this ridiculous repeal of ACA is being brought to the Senate floor. Millions will lose health insurance and many will have premiums skyrocket due to pre-existing conditions, especially for those over the age of 50 who do not get insurance from an employer and are not yet eligible for Medicare. The problems with the ACA are relatively simple to fix and were mostly induced by actions of the Republican Party to weaken ACA. Please do not vote to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

- Caroline 😊
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Saillant [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I am writing to comment on my personal experience of having affordable health care at the age of 58.

Since I am a resident of Texas, I have no way to influence my Senators to advocate on my behalf.

This bill will not only devastate me, but also approximately 32 million vulnerable people across the United States, including the elderly and children.

This bill does NOT protect pre-existing conditions and also really hurts women.

There is no CBO score and this would effect 6% of our economy in any unknowable way.

The best policy would be to work on a bi-partisan fix to the existing ACA

The anxiety of this proposed bill is effecting our country's mental, emotional and physical psyche.

Work together to make healthcare better.

Thank you,
Cindy Saillant

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill

I am writing to beg that you not support the Cassidy-Graham ACA. While some states might be able to successfully manage healthcare for their citizens, many many states cannot do that and, therefore, many Americans will not be able to afford healthcare....especially those with pre-existing conditions.

This is a horrible bill and a death sentence to so many Americans.....please please do not do this. Please get a bi-partisan group to improve Obamacare and keep the good parts while improving the bad. We are begging you not to support this bill.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 81

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Y. Brown [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am a 100% disabled veteran and even though the Graham-Cassidy bill will not affect my access to healthcare, it WILL affect access to healthcare for millions of other veterans who don't have VA healthcare access. I also know what it's like to live without access to healthcare, for most of my adult life I had no healthcare and my disabilities prevented me from working. I was forced to live in a domestic abuse situation for 13 years because the only other choice was being homeless. I am AGAINST the repeal of the ACA for the health and safety of my fellow veterans and my fellow Americans whom I SERVED for four years in the army. If I can serve, so can you, senators. FOR THE PEOPLE NOT THE DONORS. I am holding you all accountable.

Renee Y. Brown
Fort Worth, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Zindler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Dear sir/madam,

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

Sincerely,

Rachel zindler

Austin TX

Via phone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Serena Fast [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I would like to go on record to say that this bill is terrible and will be detrimental to our country. 32 million people losing their insurance, not to mention the lack of protections against discrimination for pre-existing conditions, is completely unacceptable, and the authors and sponsors of this bill should be ashamed of themselves.

Anyone who votes yes for this bill is a heartless ghoul who only cares about money and has no right being a member of Congress.

Thank you for listening,
Serena M. Fast
Austin, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy and Brian Bochner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Neither the American Medical Association, the Association of Hospitals, nor Blue Cross-Blue Shield approves of the Graham-Cassidy bill.

No bill should be passed without input from doctors, hospitals, insurers and patients. It is clear that many would lose their health care, and that those with pre-existing conditions would be put at risk. Lack of health care is the major cause of bankruptcy.

There is no score yet from the CBO and to vote prematurely is unprofessional.

Please work in a bipartisan manner to fix the Affordable Care Act. It will be much more cost effective in the long run. We have to pay for FEMA efforts and other vital supports. We can't afford to waste money repealing the ACA.

Judy Bochner
College Station, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve Matchett [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare legislation

Dear Senators,

First let me say that the ACA played a role in saving my life last year when I had heart valve replacement surgery. As a self-employed person in Texas I have known how difficult it can be to acquire good health insurance. We in Texas needed the federal government to step in and regulate our health insurance market. Before the ACA Texas ranked worst in the nation in both the percentage of uninsured and number of uninsured and it still does. The ACA threw us a lifeline in light of the fact that our state government was doing absolutely nothing to help the people of Texas when it came to acquiring life-saving healthcare. Sending back control to the states, will again send millions (yes millions!) of Texans back to the bad ole days of pre-existing conditions rejection, high risk-pool unaffordable premiums, so-called exemptions from coverage of whatever conditions the insurance companies see fit, and a human catastrophe that this state's government will be all too happy to perpetuate. Texas turned down Medicaid expansion and just recently cut Medicaid benefits for important therapies for handicapped children. I am not making this up!!! For the sake of millions in Texas please reject Graham-Cassidy and work across the aisle to improve the ACA and make it even better for your fellow citizens. Deny it if you want, but the ACA was a Republican idea brought forth by Gov. Mitt Romney in Massachusetts. Remember that as you all reach across the aisle in a spirit of cooperation and good faith to help your fellow citizens.

Steve Matchett
sent from my iPhone
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mim Luetje [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fw: NO on Graham Cassidy

I am a voting citizen who works in healthcare and utilizes healthcare.

My husband has hypertension. My son has asthma. Even with these minor "pre-existing conditions", our healthcare expenses would be prohibitive to purchase healthcare. Or, we would be denied.

VOTE NO ON GRAHAM CASSIDY.

Thank you,
Mim Luetje
Austin Texas 78704

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margo Gutierrez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Gentlemen/Gentlewomen:

Although my husband and I won't personally be greatly affected by the proposed bill, some of my family members do rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because family we love and cherish will be greatly hurt should this healthcare bill pass, we are adamantly opposed to the Graham-Cassiday bill. The ONLY solution, short of a single-payer system (which most of the civilized, industrialized world has adopted), is a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act. Do not repeal, rather sit down, be civil and civilized, use your words, and improve it.

Respectfully,

Margo Gutiérrez
(retired academic librarian)
[REDACTED] il
Austin, TX 78745

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brandie Sellers [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

This is a terrible bill. Please do not pass it. As a single mom with breast cancer and three children at home, I rely on my my healthcare benefits for my very life.

If this bill passes, I'll be sure to let my children know who is responsible for my impending death if I lose my benefits.

Brandie Sellers
McKinney, TX

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brendan Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:33 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.

Dr. Brendan Lee
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 30
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Therese Tetzal [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote against Graham Cassidy

I live in Dallas TX. I am against the Graham Cassidy Bill. It is immoral to support this bill. 2.8 million people in Texas will lose healthcare. You should be against it too.

It is inconceivable the Republicans would vote for any bill that has not been scored by the CBO. That goes against the very core of the party's ideals.

Vote NO!

Therese Tetzal

[REDACTED] 1874

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Twyla Miranda [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare situation - vote down the new GPO attempt

The latest plan from GOP will hurt elderly people like my parents, who live in Lubbock, Texas, at a residential nursing home. Their own retirement accounts help pay for some of the care, but they are also helped by the government programs of medicare and medicaid.

Why would the GOP ask states to fund such help for the elderly when they know the track record for states in this area? Especially a state like Texas. In Texas, we are rugged independents and see no reason to help anyone. Woe to anyone who needs help in Texas.

I am embarrassed and appalled by the GOP plan. Vote it down and make sure it doesn't see the light of day.

Twyla Miranda, Ph.D.
Texas Wesleyan University
Fort Worth, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sabeeha Ahmed <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

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

Sincerely, Sabeeha Ahmed

Plano, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Michals [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Deborah Lynn Michals

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
I am writing to express my emphatic desire that the Graham Cassidy bill NOT pass.

I have dealt with skin cancer twice. I am also about to lose my job. Under the Graham-Cassidy bill I would not be guaranteed coverage for this preexisting condition. The state I live in could apply for a waiver, and the cost of my treatment could skyrocket. This is not what we were promised during the congressional, and presidential elections.

This rushed, ill thought out bill will affect me, my father who has congestive heart failure, my daughter who has PTSD, and many of my students who rely on Medicaid.

I urge you to vote "no" to the Graham Cassidy bill, and to work with Democrats, doctors, insurance companies and financial experts to come up with a better solution to this vitally important problem. A good bill is better than a quick bill. The GOP had 7 years to get it right. It's not there yet.

Emphatically,

Deborah Michals

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rocky Hadler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Sir/Madam:

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

I am retired and rely on Medicare & Medicaid. I care for my parents, who have dementia. I rely on Medicare and Medicaid to care for them. All of us have worked hard all lives, and yet have to struggle at this terrible juncture. To diminish healthcare for those who have supported this country throughout their lives (including a part of the military service) is a disgrace. It is inhumane. It is murder.

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

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Hadler
(A resident of Texas currently caring for parents in California)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Binford [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

My family relies on affordable health care. We both have preexisting conditions. These conditions and the necessity for medication will not go away without insurance. Instead we will be forced to drain the system by showing up at the hospital uninsured in order to receive medication. Insurance is not available through work. Without the ACA we could not have affordable insurance available to us.

If you need to reform the system please do so, but don't take my insurance away.

Registered voter in Travis County, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brian Dixon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health reform

Greetings,

As a practicing physician, I have a better plan for health reform than Graham/Cassidy:

[REDACTED]

It's time to think outside the box.

Brian J Dixon, MD
Fort Worth, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Darby [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators:

If the descriptions of the Graham-Cassidy bill are true, I can only conclude that its passage will not be in the best interests of ordinary Americans. This bill still appears to be a thinly disguised means to the end of securing tax cuts for big corporations and the most wealthy individuals in America. Even though you retain the net investment income tax and other taxes in the ACA and only jettison the medical device tax, your plan to reduce funding for Medicaid expansion and cap Medicaid spending will not inure to the benefit of our most vulnerable citizens, especially disabled children and elderly citizens.

Please turn your attention to bi-partisan approaches to reducing the cost of and improving access to quality health care for all Americans. Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Karen S. Darby
Georgetown, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angelica L. [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

To whom it may concern:

My family depends on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Due to pre-existing conditions, me and my family had trouble finding health coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Angie

Manor, Tx

[REDACTED] [View my Mail on Android](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeremy Breckbill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Unsurprisingly, the current version of the Republican healthcare bill (a misnomer if ever I saw one) would boot 32 million Americans off of healthcare, gutting working families and undoing the progress we've made in protecting so many people. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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

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

Jeremy Breckbill

[REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED] Lane

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hilde Royal [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Hilde Royal

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CHARLES CLINES <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The GOP continues to offer "health" plans that are draconian for most Americans. However, at least the wealthy will be taken care of...whew. The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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 CLINES
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Penny Hammack <[REDACTED]@network.org>
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.

Somebody has to pay. So if a person doesn't have insurance and needs medical care, the expense either comes out of our taxes or increased expense for the rest of us. To axe the ACA in favor of a plan that doesn't require people to have insurance and takes it away from people with pre-existing conditions means the rest of us will be paying more, not less.

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

Penny Hammack

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Texas 76100-0023.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Byler [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect Americas Healthcare. Reject the Graham-Cassidy proposal

Finance Committee,

This newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans.

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

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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 Byler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Morris Sandel [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.

Morris Sandel
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Walton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Nelson, Beth (Cornyn); Heimbach, Joel (Cruz)
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy! Keep ACA!

Dear Senators,

I urge you to immediately abandon the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. Voters will not forget your closed-door attempt to ram through legislation that will hurt millions of Americans, including over 2 million here in Texas. Some of the biggest problems include:

- Only about 25% of voters want this bill. Even among Republicans, the majority oppose Graham-Cassidy.
- Passage of the bill will put the health and financial well-being over 30 million Americans at risk. Once again many hard-working families will be one accident or illness away from financial ruin.
- Job-independent health insurance allows people to start or join new ventures without jeopardizing the health of their families. Remove that safety net and people will be locked into jobs at large corporations, leading to a more stagnant economy, with less small business formation.
- I agree with Senator McCain: something that changes a 15% of the economy and affects millions of citizens needs regular order, with a complete CBO score and a bipartisan approach. People need time to study the proposal and know what they are voting for. None of these things are happening with Graham-Cassidy.
- There are media reports that some senators are being offered a promise to keep the ACA in their states in exchange for a vote to remove ACA from other states. This is shameless hypocrisy AND unconstitutional. Anything passed under these circumstances would be litigated for years.

ACA is not perfect, but it is the law of the land. Leave it in place and start a bipartisan effort to make it better.

Sincerely,

Chris Walton
Round Rock, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

If you pass this bill, you will be an accessory to the crime. Tens of thousands will die for lack of 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.

Rick Hart

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chonda Williams [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.

Chonda Williams
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jonathan Kennedy <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jonathan Kennedy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Wester <[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.

Judith Wester

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Sobrino <[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.

Sara Sobrino

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]le
[REDACTED], Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bernie Zelazny [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.

Bernie Zelazny
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Virginia Machrowicz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

It is not OK to kick 32 million people off of healthcare just to keep a ridiculous campaign promise. Devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans in order to give a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry is unconscionable. An industry which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes does not deserve any special legislative breaks. American families do.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing should be an embarrassment to the Republican Party and 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. Believe me, It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Virginia Machrowicz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marla Parvey [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I want to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. It will take healthcare away from millions of people and decrease coverage with increased premiums for those who still have medical insurance. It is cruel and inhumane to prevent sick people from obtaining treatment. It will also devastate many facilities that now provide healthcare. I thought the purpose of elected official was to improve their constituents lives. This bill will kill people.

Marla Parvey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 09

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Chang <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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 Chang

info@actionnetwork.org

Sugar Land

Texas 77478

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Agatha Ocko [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Agatha Ocko
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
R [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helga Smith [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.

Helga Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debra Powell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Debra Powell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Texas 76140

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Methvin [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.

Barbara Methvin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle Bafik-Vehslage [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. NO CORPORATE TAX BREAKS

Michelle Bafik-Vehslage

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Della Fernandez [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.

Della Fernandez
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: geoffrey dowdey <gdowdey@wans.net>
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.

geoffrey dowdey

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawne Meneguzzo <dawbee@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO Graham-Cassidy

Finance Committee,

You ALL have Pre-Existing conditions!

Dawne Meneguzzo
dawbee@sbcglobal.net
11701 Metric, 1822
AUSTIN, Texas 78758

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Lucy Harmon

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Li [REDACTED] Texas 75771

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Government is supposed to support their citizens, not harm them. Passing Trumpcare is harming millions of people for no reason other than greed. Our elected representatives shouldn't be evil.

Jerry Jorgenson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
2100 N. [REDACTED] Drive
[REDACTED], Texas 75025

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Annie Caton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Annie Caton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kay Eby [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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Kay Eby
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsey Densing [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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Lindsey Densing
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

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Joshua Seff
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Daguzan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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Susan Daguzan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Salih <[REDACTED]@charter.net>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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Sharon Salih

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MICHELLE DOTY [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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MICHELLE DOTY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Texas 76134

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Mark Colby

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dave Mills <[REDACTED]@sbeglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Dave Mills

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sbeglobal.net

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Marilyn Terrell

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wayne Allen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy bill is literally murder. Stop it!

This betrayal of Americans must be stopped.

Fix and expand ACA.

Wayne Allen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: I.j. lombardo <[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.

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I.j. lombardo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Rush Rehm

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 04063

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Heather Lanthorn

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

[REDACTED] at Place

Th [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Dallas Windham

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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PATRICK WINTERS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacey Swann [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I've detailed my story for an op ed for the Texas Tribune, which you can read [here](#). But the short version is that though I make a decent living, enough that I don't qualify for the subsidies through the ACA, I cannot get health insurance via work. Prior to the ACA, my privately purchased insurance didn't cover my pre-existing condition. Thus, the ACA felt life-changing for me.

Because I live in Texas, I have no doubt that my state will not protect my access to quality, affordable insurance. My premiums will skyrocket without the federal protection that insurance companies cannot charge more for coverage of pre-existing conditions. In addition, I cannot fathom how so many Senators would vote for a bill that affects the lives of so many Americans (and also impacts 1/6 of our entire economy) within a two-week time frame that doesn't even allow for full CBO scoring. Why wreck lives simply to fulfill a campaign promise that most Americans no longer want you to fulfill?

I never thought I'd feel directly assaulted by my own members of Congress, and yet I've spent many weeks of the past six months feeling exactly that. You are making millions of your constituents live in fear and anxiety as you turn health care into some sort of horse race. It's shameful.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Until we figure out a way to control the exorbitant costs of health care, there will be no long term solution. If a simple free market would fix that, why was our system so broken before the ACA?

Sincerely,

Stacey Swann

Lampasas, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Wiggins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Nancy Wiggins

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Harold Copeland [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Harold Copeland
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rosalee Weiler [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Rosalee Weiler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve Lininger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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Steve Lininger

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 75052

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Garry Kramchak <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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Garry Kramchak

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@gmail.com
[REDACTED] ne
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Cottingham <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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David Cottingham

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
1700 West Alabama St
[REDACTED] Birmingham, AL 35202

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Copeland <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

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David Copeland

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@gmail.com

17 Hartford Street

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Spencer Henderson Jr <[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.

Spencer Henderson Jr

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Stamilio <[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.

It is immoral to take away health care from millions of people to give wealthy people a massive tax cut. It is shameful this is even considered in America.

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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 Stamilio

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: virginia sawin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

PLEASE OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL. It gives tax breaks to companies that do not need it or deserve it and takes 32 million people off of healthcare. Basically these 32 million are working families who need and deserve the coverage. This bill would roll back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. The companies that would profit from this bill are the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

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

virginia sawin

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jay Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Dear Senator:

Patients with pre-existing conditions 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.

States should NOT be allowed to opt out of or change EHBs in any way.

I am asking you to stand up for those with pre-existing conditions by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Jay Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: mohsen shenas <info@[REDACTED].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.

mohsen shenas

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Rucker [redacted] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Leave our healthcare alone! The Senate has failed to produce a bi-partisan bill for the past eight years 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.

As a senator you work for your constituents, not the medical device companies. It is time to show what you can do rather than what you can dismantle. Work on a bi-partisan healthcare bill that has a full set of hearings and is transparent to the American public or risk losing your senate seat in the next election. You have had plenty of time to do better than what we have seen in the last 8 months.

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bea Smith <[REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Patients with pre-existing conditions 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.

States should NOT be allowed to opt out of or change EHBs in any way.

I am asking you to stand up for those with pre-existing conditions by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Dr
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Inga Vickers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Inga Vickers

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Road
[REDACTED], Texas 77024

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kevin Rolfes [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.

Kevin Rolfes

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Texas 76737

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Stone [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.

Lisa Stone
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas Tilkey [redacted]@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Thomas Tilkey

ttilkey@actionnetwork.org

Dallas, Texas 75200

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eric Scheihagen <info@continuumwork.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Eric Scheihagen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Schmidt [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.

Amy Schmidt

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

100 A [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ralph Heaven [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender)
Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 06
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tracy Crawford <[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.

Tracy Crawford

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Garza [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Where was the moral conscience when GrahamCassidy created their immoral inhumane newest version of Trumpcare.

When questioned about specific aspects of the content, both responded inaccurately demonstrating their ignorance that specifics it would eliminate 32 million people from receiving healthcare, and devastating working families and rolling back the progress that has so many lives.

If Mr. Trump and Congress wanted to decrease medical expenses and pharmaceutical prices, why is there a hidden section in the Graham-Cassidy bill—for a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore and evading paying their share of U.S. taxes?

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE short timed hearing demonstrates the authors' and supporters' warped moral conscience. The proposed bill is an embarrassment and outrage because it reflects lack of conscience for the well being of our fellow Americans for preventative health care and in life and death matters.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to REJECT Graham-Cassidy and to PROTECT the healthcare rights of millions of Americans.

When wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes, and when pharmaceutical companies rein in their prices, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Margaret Garza

[REDACTED] 5m

[REDACTED] Mail

[REDACTED] 50

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tara cohen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy Bill

Committee Members,

I ask, as an American citizen, that the Graham - Cassidy 'bill' not be approved in any way, shape or form. 32 million real people uninsured. Deep cuts to Medicaid. Massive premium hikes. A return to healthcare driven bankruptcy. Planned Parenthood services denied. Women losing healthcare simply because they are not men. No full CBO score. No transparency. This and so much more is wrong and not worthy of America. Trash this latest attempt to kill more Americans.

Thank you for your time.

Tara Cohen
Austin, TX



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen and Steven [REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

Good Day,

I am writing to you in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. The current ACA healthcare bill has made healthcare affordable, mandatory and created a safety net for millions who would have gone without care and possibly died. It has reduced walk-in emergency room care and instead allowed individuals to have a physician patient relationship. Healthcare is a human right. It is tragic and unnecessary when a family or individual is stressed about the cost of healthcare in addition to the actual stress and often pain of a health condition.

I have a soon to be 26 year old son who will be seeking healthcare from the marketplace. The uncertainty and overwhelming task of being responsible for his own healthcare is something many of this young people are struggling to handle particularly when every few months the Congress threatens to take it away! I am self employed and many of my self employed colleagues also have healthcare thanks to the ACA and through the exchanges. Issues like Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, aging, maternity and prenatal care affect all of us as a country.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please do all possible to protect and improve healthcare for all citizens.

Sincerely,

Karen Price
League City, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Boulden [redacted]@msm.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

This is nothing more than a pathetic knee-jerk reaction to the Koch Brothers and Deason and other major Republican party donors who have given the Republicans an ultimatum.

Republicans clearly care more about themselves than their constituents. This bill is an abomination! 45 and Republicans are the ONLY ones who support this bill. The vast majority of health organizations oppose this bill. It is disgusting.

Susan Boulden
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

"Justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love." Martin Luther King

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Hooten [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@g>
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.

Nancy Hooten
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Embedded in the Graham-Cassidy bill is a year long de-funding of Planned Parenthood. This is so counter intuitive it defies reality. Planned Parenthood provides excellent well women care. They do it efficiently and comprehensively. When women have the ability to access Planned Parenthood care, they can get birth control to manage the timing of starting a family to allow them to be financially responsible, get further along in their life to the point where they can afford to have children. They can identify early cancers when treatment is cheaper and more effective. They can learn about good sexual health, which in turn leads to fewer public health issues. Defunding Planned Parenthood is simply a hateful, misogynistic response to PP being able to provide abortions. The move to defund is entirely political since everyone in congress knows no federal funding goes toward providing abortion care services. Without Planned Parenthood, women lose access to care and birth control, which will lead to more births to people who can't afford them. Texas is already familiar with the outcome of limiting funding to Planned Parenthood and instead funding faith-based women's health centers: higher incidence of teen pregnancy, increased incidence of sexually transmitted diseases and higher maternal mortality.

Please vote NO to Graham Cassidy. Work to address the weaknesses in the ACA via bi-partisan panels utilizing subject matter experts and citizen input. Your laws impact me & my neighbors. Please listen to us.

Sincerely,
Malinda Moller

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area, with the number '3' visible at the bottom right corner.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Malinda Moller <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: G-C will negatively impact Galveston County

Good day, Senators,

I am the mother of a 23 year old who suffered a severe traumatic brain injury. I am a Texan who has previously worked in this county's primary hospital system, UTMB. I am a citizen, who volunteers to enable neighbors to live their best life-fighting for equal access and opportunity. I support Planned Parenthood, as they provided my care through my teens and twenties, until I made a high enough income to not need sliding scale services & they were exceptional providers of women's care-Exceptional.

Graham-Cassidy threatens my son's ability to get as close to good as he is able. His injury was extreme (GCS 3) and led to his spending 10 months in first ICU hospital, then acute rehab facility, then post acute rehab facility. He was able to do those things because my insurance was ACA compliant so emergency transport, emergency hospital stay and rehabilitative services were essential benefits. The approximate cost of those stays was \$910K. Our policy, because of its ACA compliance, did not allow for caps for incidence of illness/hospitalization nor lifetime caps. G-C allows states to choose to not carry any of those ACA provisions.

This has been the rallying cry-the states know what is best for their citizens, but I beg to differ. I have lived in Texas since 1991. The state has in that time worked relentlessly to limit any social safety net for its citizens. If you are disabled in Texas, you had better have a family member of means who can feed & house you, because there the services that are available are all governed by block funding, so waiting lists are long, providers lists are short and access is truly luck of the draw. It really can be extremely disheartening. I do not believe that if G-C is enacting that Texas will suddenly become a compassionate dispenser of services (see the funding of our public schools for an example of an equivalent scenario to see how cruelly Texas treats its citizens). If enacted, my son, who now has a pre-existing condition that literally impacts every facet of his health but has yet to join the workforce (still as university student as his injury impacted his ability to take full load) will have few choices as to how to access healthcare, unless he qualified for Medicaid, which is also being cut in this bill. He will be 26 soon enough and then what? Do we go back to healthcare a la 2005 where I had to give up a consulting business I started because high risk pool insurance-needed due to my migraine, one son's allergies and the other's asthma-was too expensive and had a waiting list to secure?

I also wonder how deeply the Senate has considered the economic impact of G-C down to the county level. Prior to ACA our primary hospital had regular reductions in force because they were not getting paid to provide medical care & as such had to have massive lay offs in order to balance their books. Working poor and middle class folks without insurance would get their care via the emergency room and be unable to pay their bill. G-C would lead to 3 millions Texans losing their insurance. Currently this insurance has improved access to care and enabled UTMB to expand to where there are even more paying customers. What is the economic impact when the illnesses and injuries continue to happen, but people no longer have insurance to soften the blow or insurance plans that don't cover the services they need, which, let's be honest is what insurance without essential benefits will be-cheap but really only catastrophic coverage? The result is not pretty-the people get referred to county resources, which means ultimately me and my fellow Galveston county property owners have to somehow support our county health district via higher taxes. UTMB will tumble back into economic crisis as they don't have as many insured patients, leading to further RIFs and ultimately less purchasing power for the county citizens, because of unemployment.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Arielle L-Z [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

My 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

Arielle Lewis-Zavala

Austin, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edward Bates <[REDACTED]@g>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Edward Bates
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 8

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ron Rathbun [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.

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

Ron Rathbun
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diana LMinella <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:02 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. Diana LMinella
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lee Hancock <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My mother & my mother-in-law and father-in-law are all chronically ill. They depend on quality health care coverage that would be jeopardized by the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and daughter and I also rely on quality healthcare coverage that Graham-Cassidy would erode and endanger. I have close friends whose cancer care would not be affordable under the provisions of this bill, and their lives would literally be over if it passes. Congress needs to work together on bipartisan healthcare reform that benefits ALL Americans. This requires improvement of the ACA, not an ill-considered partisan effort to destroy it. Please represent the interests of all Americans, reject this bill and do better than this.

Sincerely,

Lee Hancock

Flint, Texas [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Walsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Hello. My husband and I rely on quality affordable healthcare. We are not quite retirement age and have a small business we have run for over 30 years. As "self-employed" individuals, in the past it was very challenging to find affordable insurance. The passage of ACA helped us have options.

We worry that changes in health care will make it difficult for my husband to be insurable. He was born with a prolapsed heart valve. Although he has stayed active and has been on a heart healthy diet for a long time, his heart became inefficient and enlarged. He had surgery two years ago and is doing well but will need to be monitored and on medication for the rest of his life. We worry we will not be able to afford his routine care. Thus, we are opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it leaving Americans like us with uncertainty.

Thank you,
Susan Walsh
Austin, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Boulden <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill

- Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
- September 25, 2017
- Susan Timmons Boulden
- [REDACTED]

This is nothing more than a pathetic knee-jerk reaction to the Koch Brothers and Deason and other major Republican party donors who have given the Republicans an ultimatum.

Republicans clearly care more about themselves than their constituents. This bill is an abomination! 45 and Republicans are the ONLY ones who support this bill. The vast majority of health organizations oppose this bill. It is disgusting.

Susan Boulden
[REDACTED]

"Justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love." Martin Luther King

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jim Pounder [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

I wish to have my opinion entered into the record regarding the Graham-Cassidy Bill (GCB) to repeal the ACA.

The GCB is un-American and obviously intended to do actual harm to women, minorities, children, and the elderly. The bill purportedly gives states control of health care, but it is well known that a large number of states will simply roll back coverage and guarantees intended to protect the citizens of this country.

As a veteran, I am ashamed to have fought for a country that would even consider such a terrible thing as this bill. The ACA isn't perfect, but it is at least an attempt at helping people. That's what our government is supposed to be doing. Instead, it's obvious our representatives only serve the wealthy who fund their campaigns.

DO NOT LET GRAHAM-CASSIDY BECOME LAW.

Jim Pounder
Fort Worth, TX [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: B.R. Gavenda [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My statement

I retired from 33 years of floor nursing and the Affordable Care Act was there to provide insurance for me until I reach age 65. Please protect and strengthen this wonderful service to the American people.

Beverly Gavenda
Austin, TX [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacqueline K Thomas [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop the Graham/Cassidy Atrocity

Dear Committee Members,

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, goddamn it!! You Republicans are digging yourselves a hole that you're not going to be able to get out of. The voters are going to get you soon!!

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Thomas

Austin, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise Flores <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:22 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, Denise Flores

Houston, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cheryl Killian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: AGAINST Graham Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I am 64 years old and was a professional working woman for all my adult life. I developed a chronic debilitating bone disease that resulted in multiple fractures and dozens of surgeries beginning when I was only 45 years old. Because I often worked at jobs that did not offer insurance I was at the mercy of the Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool, which charged double the premiums of the average policy. Since the Affordable Care Act came into force, I have been able to buy reasonable insurance coverage, and since I retired this year, I am eligible for the subsidy. Our nation is too great and prosperous to let hard working people go bankrupt due to medical issues. The Affordable Care Act has helped almost every member of my family in one way or another to get coverage and we are very thankful. Also the ACA has helped the USA economy by expanding the number of places offering health care, urgent care clinics, rural hospitals, and others. Nurses and doctors and physician extenders by the tens of thousands are helping people to live healthier lives and to be more productive thanks to the ACA.

Congress needs to pass the few fixes necessary to balance and stabilize the private marketplace, and to expand Medicaid coverage in all the states, through a 100% federal program if states refuse to expand Medicaid. This Graham Cassidy bill does the opposite, (rewards states that did not expand Medicaid and punishes states that did expand Medicaid for example), will cut tens of millions of Americans off of coverage, cause rural areas to lose hospitals, cap block grants into a forever smaller box and forever fewer services going forward (soft landing), and every major health organization and insurance organization and the state Medicaid directors are all against it.

It is time for America to be bold and step into the future of health care being available to and affordable for all Americans regardless of their life situation. Health care for all, either through single payer, public private partnership or the current private enterprise insurance and Medicare and Medicaid. There is a way and we can do it.

Please do NOT pass this bill.

Thank you.

Cheryl Killian
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Hazlitt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

Andrea Hazlitt

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen LeBlanc [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:52 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.

Kathleen LeBlanc
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 3
[REDACTED] 5507