

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass this bill

It would devastate millions
"ACCESS" to coverage does not = "COVERAGE"

📧 Lonnie 📧

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lowell Sauers [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

Please vote No on Graham-Cassidy bill. Health care is not supposed to hurt people but this bill is certain to hurt millions of Americans, especially people like my 19 year old son who has a disability. Medicaid dollars supported him in school and now help him to be independent in his community. He wants what every other young man wants: to live independently, to have a job, to be a contributing member of his community. Medicaid dollars are helping him do that.

Without those supports, what will he do? Sit on the couch the rest of his days?

Please vote NO!

Mary Swifka

[REDACTED]
New London WI 54961

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Schirmer, Diane M. [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am very opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill because:

1. It eliminates the Medicaid program as we know it and ends the entitlement by placing per-capita cap on the traditional Medicaid population and block grant funding for the expansion population until 2026. After 2026 there will be no funding for this population.
2. It places the Essential Health Benefits at risk and allows states to remove covered services like rehabilitative care, opioid treatment, and mental health treatment.
3. It allows insurance companies to discriminate against people with pre-existing condition and all but guarantees these individuals will pay higher premiums, and potentially be priced out of the market.

Thank you,

Diane M. Schirmer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Lexington, KY 40511

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Forsch [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd:

Every one of you in the Senate voting to cut Medicaid should have to watch the documentary on Willowbrook before voting. You are responsible for the cuts you are making for the care of our nations most vulnerable disabled children and adults. What do you expect states to do with less money? There are already long waiting lists for medicaid waivers and not enough group homes to care for our disabled. We should not forget our past and make the same mistakes. President Reagan helped by finally getting disabled children home with the Katie Becket program. What are you doing to help the disabled? It is your job to look out for them, not only the Koch's and the other rich families and companies. If you do not know what will happen to prevent Willowbrook happening with your Medicaid cuts, you should not vote for this bill. It is not ok to punt to the states. This is on you. You will own what happens to the disabled with this horrible bill.

http://www.silive.com/news/2017/01/the_horrors_of_willowbrook_sta.html

Sincerely,
Margaret Forsch
Rochester MN
Mother of deaf blind 10 year old with Charge Syndrome

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret Forsch [REDACTED]
Date: Sat, Sep 23, 2017 at 2:26 PM
Subject:
To: gchcomments@finance.senate.gov

My husband and I live in Rochester MN with our disabled deaf blind 10 year old daughter. We have great insurance, but it does not cover many of Elizabeth's medical equipment needs and PCA care. I had to quit my IT programming job to care for Elizabeth. Medicaid paid for her stroller, walker, her medical bed and much more. Her medicaid through Tefra allows her to be home and cared for by us.

The Cassidy Graham bill would hurt Elizabeth by cutting Medicaid. She has many pre existing conditions. She will need medicaid for home care when I am no longer able to care for her due to age or illness. She will be an adult in 7 1/2 years. Her needs will increase as she ages.

We moved from Wisconsin to Minnesota to ensure Elizabeth would have care. Please do not let states to completely control Medicaid.

Please come up with a medical bill that does not hurt the disabled like this one does.

Thanks

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Grosso [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill
Attachments: PastedGraphic-2.tiff; PastedGraphic-3.tiff

I am a social worker with a psychotherapy private practice. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My clients come to me with all different types of mental health and physical health issues, and they need quality, affordable care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Heather Grosso, LICSW
[REDACTED]
Middleboro, MA 02346
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Protections for pre-existing conditions should not be up for debate. Just about everyone in this country, even the teenage athletic who's had knee surgery, could be at the mercy of insurance companies. Please do not allow this bill to exploit the people of this country with premiums that would be unaffordable and allow people to suffer in pain when they don't have money to pay for medical care.

Insurance companies are greedy and this won't stop unless there is a mandate for coverage and subsidies that balance the cost across all citizens.

Ann Christopher
Southlake, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Wynns [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

Dear Committee:

After having read the newspaper this morning, this is a follow-up to the email I sent last night. First, it is simply outrageous that the Senate is willing to vote on a bill that is so constantly changing that the American people cannot possibly digest, ask questions, and register their opinions prior to the vote on the bill.

This bill fails in so many respect. Millions of people will lose their Medicaid coverage. And, this morning I learn that there are wide discrepancies in the amount that various states will get in block grant funding. It appears that Americans living in states with Republican senators will benefit from far greater block grants than American living in states with Democratic senators. All Americans deserve the same benefits from the federal government.

Again, I want to register my very strong opposition to this continually changing bill that will deny health care coverage to millions and that has not been properly debated.

Sincerely,
Pat Wynns

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Miranda McQuillan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The current(GrahamCassidy) health care bill

I am single person, it's just me taking care of me. I work very very hard I've had a job since I was 13 years old. I work for corporations that overtime have become somewhere that's not sustainable, somewhere that they require all of your time with very little benefit. At my job I'm not even allowed to supplement my income, and that I have to have open availability. I want to try to better my life and build so that in the long run I have some type of security for retirement. I have no husband and no children to take care of me, or to build with. My main fear of leaving this job that is truly a terrible company that I hate working for, (and I have not said that ever in my life), is health insurance, as I am a little older now. The collectivization of American citizens that don't work for corporations is what allows Healthcare to be affordable to people as they follow their dreams. By privatizing and corporatizing Healthcare you're taking away opportunities for individuals to follow in their ancestors footsteps, and find their true dreams here. There's no reason that Healthcare should hold people back from realizing their dreams. A lot of the illness that you are not wanting to pay for is caused by your fda's willingness Overlook certain things, to pass bills that benefit pharmaceutical companies and corporations, to take jobs with organizations that they helped while in the FDA. What has been done to our land our food, our air and our water, selling as commodity, is what is (or has) causing much of the illness here. The EPA was great but was too little too late, and people are getting sick. And we don't want to pay for it even though we played a role in some of the issues that are causing these illnesses. It's just the truth. That's not fair That people are turned away, that we treat this like it's only for the privileged, and that we just keep seeing medical facilities grow in Leaps and Bounds. It's the right thing to do, protect your citizens from their government and from corporations capitalizing on their governments affinity to capitalism over democracy. Please get your heads on right and support your constituency. This is one of the most important issues of your time in office. Please don't screw us, yourself or your family members for when you become a regular citizen again. Oh right, you get a bunch of that stuff for life because you served our country. So we're going to be paying for you and your family for the rest of your life. The least you can do is support us getting healthcare for the rest of ours.

Sincerely,
Miranda McQuillan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Listewnik [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Elizabeth Warren; U.S. Senator Markey
Subject: ACA - Do not repeal!

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

The recent Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill is not a bill that the majority of Americans support. Anyone can wake up tomorrow with a pre-existing condition that makes paying for coverage nearly impossible for many and a death sentence for some.

My sister in law was diagnosed with late stage lung cancer at the age of 53. Without the Affordable Care Act she would have died within 3 months. Instead, she received treatment that prolonged her life. She qualified to receive some ground breaking, recently FDA approved gene therapies that advanced scientific research and treatment for cancer like hers. Most importantly, she lived for 18 months giving us all precious time to spend with her and some closure. Her life matters. Every Americans life matters... not just those who can afford to pay for it.

I was recently diagnosed with an endometrial polyp. I plan to have a hysterectomy because I have an increased risk of future cancers due to family history if I do not. Under your proposed plan, I'm not sure I could afford such a procedure and my family has very good insurance through my husband's employer. Further, due to this condition, I may be considered under a high-risk pool and unable to afford insurance at all.... none of us really knows because you are trying to push through a bill reorganizing approximately 1/6th of the U.S. economy with no Congressional Budget Office score! This seems fiscally reckless to me as it should to you.

Further, this legislation would impose an "age tax" on older Americans by eliminating two sources of financial assistance that help make health coverage affordable and accessible. This would hurt millions of older Americans like my parents who are in their 80's.

First, Graham-Cassidy would take away the premium tax credits that help seniors pay for health coverage. About 6 million 50- to 64-year-olds buy their health coverage in the individual market, and about half of those individuals receive tax credits to help pay their premiums.


Second, the measure would eliminate vital cost-sharing payments that help low-income Americans — especially those over 50 — afford deductibles and co-payments for medical services. About 58 percent of adults enrolled in ACA marketplace plans get cost-sharing assistance, and 35 percent of those individuals are between 50 and 64 years old.

Graham-Cassidy would also allow states to get federal waivers for insurers to charge older Americans more so as to lower the cost for younger policyholders. The ACA limits the expense for older policyholders at three times the amount younger ones pay.

When the Affordable Care Act was introduced there were many hearings held and debates ensued. Pushing life altering legislation through this process without hearings, debate or a nonpartisan CBO score is unconscionable. I urge you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. Sadly, if Congress spent as much time working to solve the problems of ACA, than simply trying to repeal it (without a suitable alternative), we would have amazing healthcare by now!

Please, work together to make that happen.

Sincerely,
Cynthia S. Listewnik


Holliston, MA
01746

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Anondson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition, Crohns Disease, that is incurable and controlled by medication, and Graham-Cassidy would eliminate or weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Sarah Anondson

Hopkins, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Megan Mueller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Hello,

I am writing to voice my adamant objection to the damaging ACA repeal proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy.

A year and a half ago, my father died from metastatic cancer. Watching him go through cancer treatment was traumatic for my family. We had a seemingly unending number of stressors to manage, from hundreds of doctors appointments to medication and chemo schedules.

But you know what we didn't have to worry about? If we could pay for my father's treatment, or hospice care. And if we did? It might have broken us. Thanks to affordable, comprehensive health insurance, we were able to spend our emotional energy on the things that mattered. Healthcare is a basic human right; it should not be a privilege for those of us who can afford it.

The Graham-Cassidy plan, as with its predecessors, targets vulnerable families who do not have the privilege that my family was lucky to have. The full magnitude of impact of the Graham-Cassidy plan has not been determined, but it is clear that millions of Americans will be negatively impacted by it.

I support a thoughtful, bipartisan solution to healthcare reform that does not involve jamming through a damaging bill before September 30th.

Thank you,

Dr. Megan Mueller

[REDACTED]
Medfield, MA 02052

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Klemetson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham repeal bill

I am writing to inform you that I am shocked the GOP keeps pushing health care reforms that are clearly downgrades over what we already have and that the American public has loudly and vocally spoken out against. The majority of Americans do not want a downgrade! Block grants do not work and a partisan process without hearings, amendments and CBO scores is doomed to fail. Your hearing process today is a sham. This can not and should not be done in a rush!

Further, the impact to blue states appears to be larger than red states which is very bad for a country which is already too divided. Congress needs to do the right thing here and move forward TOGETHER...two parties. Fix what we have. Do not rush in something of this magnitude and importance.

Thank you.
Amy Klemetson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer W. Baxmeyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Hello,

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I and several family members have pre-existing conditions and are concerned about what will happen if this bill passes. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Baxmeyer
Lawrenceville, New Jersey

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Gold [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comment for Senate Finance Committee Hearing 9/25/2017

I am a small business owner who relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would not have felt able to take the risk to start my own business, and barely be able to afford health care without the ACA.

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

Sincerely,

Judith E Gold

Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erika Hagensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Egan, Christopher; Jill Hinton; Alexandra McArthur
Subject: Comments submitted by the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD)
Attachments: NCCDD_Graham_Cassady_responseFINAL.pdf

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments (attached) on the Graham Cassidy bill.

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities is pleased to offer feedback on the proposed legislation informed by our nonpartisan, cross-sector, governor appointed council. We welcome any additional opportunity for dialogue and discussion.

Many thanks,

Erika Hagensen
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Annette Apitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: vote no on Graham Cassidy

When I was a freelancer and my husband was unemployed, I was fortunate to have the ACA (Obamacare) on my side, for us as well as for our children, who had CHIP. It is terrifying not to have health insurance. The ACA made insurance affordable - as it should be!

This bill will make people sick and make them die. That is un-American.

I am appalled this repeal is once again being rushed through, when it goes against the will of the American people.

Annette Apitz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Schemm [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:08 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 would also allow states to let insurance companies deny coverage for mental health services. As a physician treating people with mental illness, I find this particularly cruel.

Jessica Schemm, MD
Tualatin, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lea Cane [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve ACA. Please do not repeal it.

The ACA made health care more widely available. My sister has cerebral palsy and desperately need affordable care with no pre-existing condition limitations. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, and would very much like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Lea Cane
Arlington, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: NW D [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy will hurt vulnerable Minnesotans and cause our rural hospitals to close

For seven years the GOP ran on repeal and replace. Never, during any of those years, did they create a coherent plan for replace. Graham-Cassidy is the worst of all their proposals. It will end guaranteed coverage for pre-existing illnesses.

I have a granddaughter with Celiac disease. If not treated it is life threatening. She needs regular monitoring. Her parents have excellent insurance, but that could change if her parents employment changes. A child's well being should not be dependent on where their parent is employed.

But that is just one dreadful part of this bill. The worst is the cuts it makes to Medicaid. No one campaigned on cutting Medicaid. States are going to have to choose between underwriting nursing home care, providing care and programs for the disabled, and mental health treatment for those in poverty. That is sheer madness!

In states that chose to accept the expanded Medicaid (mine is one of them) rural hospitals have come far closer to balancing their budgets. The communities they serve have lacked insurance, so they have gone deep into debt providing emergencies services. If Medicaid is block granted and those who could afford insurance on the exchanges no longer can, our rural hospitals are likely to close. Nationwide 80 rural hospitals have closed since 2010.

Please reject Graham-Cassidy!

Nika Davies

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Cost sharing is done with auto insurance which is required by most states. Healthcare should be the same so that everyone has an affordable option for coverage. Please don't sell people on lower premiums knowing that means they will have coverage for very little and catastrophic costs if they get really sick.

Ann Christopher
Southlaks, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sue Koch [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy Bill

I am strongly STRONGLY OPPOSED to this bill. To deny over 30 million people of health insurance is not acceptable in the United States. It would have a devastating impact on people with disabilities and pre-existing conditions.

This bill is UNACCEPTABLE FOR AMERICA.

S. Koch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Peascoe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy: Improve ACA

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

Does the Congress regard the American population as assets? In the late nineteenth century, the German Chancellor, Bismarck, reasoned that his people were his biggest asset and reasoned they needed three things to fulfill that roll—education, health care, and economic security. By the early twentieth century, Germany had policies instituting the three—health insurance, old-age retirement plans and a sound education system. The legislation either before the Congress or being proposed implies that the American people are regarded as highly discardable and replaceable by immigrants trained in foreign countries.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill would destroy Medicaid as we know it. States, especially West Virginians, would be unable to continue the Medicaid expansion. States would allow insurance companies to price premiums out of the range of the elderly or people with preexisting conditions. Pregnancy coverage might be excluded from most policies—at the same time as contraception is made harder to obtain by the exclusion of Planned Parenthood and making it illegal for any subsidized insurance plan to cover abortions. Coverage of newborns with birth defects is problematic. Is a birth defect a preexisting condition?

States will be able to allow insurance companies to reinstall lifetime and annual caps typically a million dollars. This provision could be included in employer plans. My husband, who is now retired, has a handicap. To get health insurance he had to work for a large company—several companies would not offer him a job because of the preexisting condition. When we had children, each time the doctors were afraid that I would deliver early and have a brain damaged child. Since a child was not covered before birth, we were not sure that a child born with a preexisting condition would be covered by my husband's policy. Fortunately, the babies were born healthy but we stopped at two.

I know several people whose cancer treatments have exceeded a million dollars in a single year. Without the absence of lifetime caps their families would have declared bankruptcies and the cancer victims would be dead.

If the ACA is not fully funded with all the subsidies, coverage requirements, requirements on universal coverage and lack of caps, millions of people will lose health care and eventually their lives. They will be unable to work. Healthcare workers will lose their jobs further damaging the economy. There will no extra funding to treat people suffering from opioid addiction.

If you value American people you will oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and other like bills. You will then work extremely hard to develop a universal comprehensive health care bill that provides care for all Americans efficiently and at low cost such as that available in most industrialized countries. If the Senate votes for the Graham-Cassidy bill, I will no that the American people are like cattle to the members of the Senate and have no value to them.

Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,
Judith Peascoe

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Vienna, WV

Up

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurel Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy
Attachments: graham cassidy.docx

Attached please find our comments on the Graham Cassidy Bill

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Hearing Date: September 25, 2017

Name: Laurel Ann P Smith, David Lee Smith and Jamieson Sherwood Smith

Address: [REDACTED]
Medford, New Jersey 08055

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments on the Graham-Cassidy Bill for today's hearing. We would have preferred the opportunity to testify in person but are grateful for the opportunity for other families like ours to voice their experience of raising a medically complex child and why we voice our opposition to it.

Our son, Jamieson, was diagnosed with Mitochondrial Disease in 1999, just before his 9th birthday. Just a few weeks ago many in Washington including our president, members of congress and the media had much to say about Mitochondrial Disease, which many most likely knew little about, until the tragic case of baby Charlie Gard.

Mitochondrial Disease affects individuals of any age at any time. In fact, approximately 1 in 5,000[s1] adults, teens and children are affected which makes Mitochondrial Disease more common than childhood cancer. Think about that, a disease, which many have NEVER heard of, is more common than childhood cancer! It is a disease which research shows holds the key to finding cures for other diseases such as Parkinson's, Autism, Multiple Sclerosis and Alzheimer's to name a few.

Caring for a medically complex child is expensive. Over the years, on our employer sponsored healthcare, our out-of-pocket expenses ranged from \$21,000 to \$31,657 a year, pushing us to the brink of bankruptcy several times. This year we paid \$837.45 for one medication.

Mitochondrial Disease presents in Jamieson as neuromuscular meaning that it affects his ability to walk, he has cardiomyopathy along with heart arrhythmias and weak lung muscles. At night, he sleeps with oxygen as well as a bi-pap machine which pushes air into his lungs when his brain forgets to breathe. He has gastrointestinal reflux and a motility disorder for which he has a feeding tube. This tube is not only used to give him nutrition but also used each night to give a colon prep as he is no longer able to move the food he eats thru his intestines. He has uncontrolled seizures which limits his many things that you and I take for granted such as driving and living independently.

As is this disease hasn't taken enough from him, it has affected his bodies abilities to make antibodies leaving him with common variable immunodeficiency. A big word that means basically his cells do not remember any virus or bacteria they are exposed too, even childhood immunizations. His immune system is provided artificially two times a week by a medication called Gamma Gard which my husband and I administer at home. Without it, he has no ability to fight even the simplest cold.

Jamieson cherishes each day with a smile on his face, a profound sense of humor and tremendous respect for the many friends who have lost their brave battle with this disease. He is a graduate of Saint Joseph's University, a gifted photographer and writer who just happens to have an incurable disease. He is incredibly disenfranchised without access to public transportation, employment as well as other opportunities that his typical peers experience. Yet he never gives up and fights his battle bravely, not only for himself but for other.

In New Jersey, 347 families are affected by Mitochondrial Disease and across the nation, many more. Their lives depend on Medicaid for medication, treatment, therapy and more. The proposed changes in the senate healthcare bill would allot Medicaid funding to states through block grants or per capita caps. This bill will put states in the untenable position to decide who will receive medical treatment and who will not due to insufficient funds to cover everyone.

There is something incredibly wrong with our country when our elected officials vote for legislation that will strip Medicaid from our son, the 347 other New Jersey residents with Mitochondrial Disease and millions of others with complex health care needs to bring tax cuts to the wealthy.

This version of the bill, like previous bills to repeal health care that were rejected this year, will have a devastating impact on all of America's families, we are just one family of the 30 million people who will lose their health insurance.

These devastating cuts to the expanded Medicaid program, not only penalizes states who did the right thing by expanding Medicaid to provide insurance for uninsured, but will throw millions off their coverage and decrease funding to states like ours.

We strongly believe that this bill needs to be voted down and that our elected representatives work in a bipartisan manner to decrease the rising cost of healthcare. We strongly oppose to any legislation which will impact Medicaid.

[51] I would just go with 5000 since that's the number I found when I googled it.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tami Luchow [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Let's Work Together - People ABOVE Politics

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I was born two months premature. I lived in the NICU for the first weeks of my life. I was also born without part of my right leg and have relied on prosthetic care and limb care and healthcare to be able to live life to the fullest.

My family uses private healthcare, but someday we may need other options. Two years ago even our private healthcare hurt me with its debilitating and health harming fine print. So my family and I know exactly how bad things can become very fast when healthcare needs are not met and not able to be paid for out of pocket.

My family and millions of other Americans rely 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 own story with is just one of millions of people who rely upon healthcare for their pre-existing condition(s), disability (visible and invisible), cancer, childbirth, mental health, affordability, and the list goes on and on...

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

Together let's work to bring the CARE back to healthcare in America. People, not politics. Let's work together, please! I have met some of you and I have said and will say again if one of your children, grandchildren, loved ones were born as I was, you'd want them to have access to equal and affordable healthcare that did not discriminate against the very same people who need it to live lives to the fullest.

Please, let's bring CARE back into healthcare, this is not about politics, it's about people.

Sincerely,

Tami Luchow
Tenafly, NJ

TAMI LUCHOW
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Alfred [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT support Graham-Cassidy.

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to ask that you not support the Graham-Cassidy health care legislation. I do not think block grants will work to protect health care for Americans - and will leave many people without health care who have it now. It appears from everything I've heard and read that it will be more difficult for people with pre-existing conditions to receive quality health care they can afford.

I think this bill will hurt, rather than help, our current health care woes. I am asking you to take a very close look at it and the effects of passing this bill before you allow to go any further.

Thank you for your time,

Liz Alfred
Voter and US Citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Paauwe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill - Vote NO



Jon and Holly Paauwe of Indiana with their son and soon-to-be born daughter.

9/25/17

Dear Esteemed Members of Congress,

We were young, hard-working (both employed and with private insurance for all of us through our jobs), and expecting child number two. We had done nothing wrong and hadn't made a "poor choice" (unless that is what we now call it when a young couple wants to add to their family) as we've heard fired off again and again, like bullets in the rhetoric of this healthcare debate. I had great prenatal care and went into labor a day after Avery's due date. And just hours later, our world turned upside down. Our WHOLE world - emotional, financial, physical. JUST LIKE THAT. NO WARNING. NO EXPECTATION. The rug was pulled out from under us. The air sucker-punched right out of our lungs.

In an instant, we had a child who would need lifelong, expensive care. A child we already loved beyond measure. A child who would need us to be her caregivers in ways beyond the typical infant, but a child who would need our unconditional love just-the-same. In this photo, we were oblivious to the fact that we would soon have to rely on a safety net (of people, and then governmental supports) to survive that unexpected, unplanned, and ongoing changes her life brought to ours as a family. Both Jon and I (starting as adolescents) and our parents had worked for many years at this point and had paid into the safety nets our government has rightly provided for its most vulnerable. Because of those safety nets (in this case Medicaid), I was able to eventually return to the work force, first part-time, then full-time. As a result, we have been able to avoid complete financial devastation. We still struggle in ways as we continue to try and pay off the significant debt we incurred while Avery underwent major medical interventions (often out of state, at costs beyond the care alone) and while I was unable to work at all for the first couple of years, and then only limited (for half the hourly wage I once made) for the next 7 years. I'm not complaining - we can breathe a bit for the first time in 12 years. We don't take it for granted. Yet, we are terrified of what changes to Medicaid would do to Avery's quality of life, and ours, and Caiden's.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas McManus [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Graham-Cassidy Hearing

Good morning,

I have high blood pressure. My family has a history of high blood pressure. My sister had a stroke at age 25. We all are gainfully employed and have health insurance through our jobs, we do not use the ACA Marketplace (at this time). I feel so much more secure knowing that if I change jobs, my pre-existing conditions are covered. That gives me the freedom to advance my career on my timetable, not my health's timetable. Several people in my family, and many of my friends, are receiving treatment for mental illnesses. They feel more secure knowing that no matter where they are employed, no matter who they get their insurance from, they can get treatment so that they can be fully functioning members of society, and control suicidal thoughts.

My niece was born last year, and she is a cutie. My sister's pregnancy and the birth were covered thanks to the ACA's clause that allowed her to stay on my parents' insurance.

I am open to discussing bipartisan ways to IMPROVE the ACA. The Graham-Cassidy bill does neither of these, because it allows individual states to set how insurance is run there, harming the mobility of Americans to advance their careers, and allows them to opt out of covering the essential health benefits provided for under the ACA. It also allows companies to charge more for pre-existing (and ongoing) conditions. This is the wrong direction for America to go. I support the ACA and providing affordable, comprehensive health care covering for all Americans.

Thank you,
Thomas McManus

[REDACTED]
Muncie, IN 47304



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Oczachowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham Cassidy bill, PLEASE!

This bill is truly un-American. The real purpose of this bill undermines everything you were elected to do. If this passes, I will vote for single payer in my state and watch it sweep the country.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bill Day [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am writing in opposition to Graham-Cassidy. The bill has insufficient protections for those with pre-existing conditions - simply allowing access without guaranteeing coverage or affordability is a sham.

I am very much in favor of reform of our current healthcare system, notably working to find ways to reduce the cost and improve the quality of care in the United States.

I support the current bi-partisan effort by Senators Murray and Alexander.

Bill Day

[REDACTED]
Williamsburg, VA 23188
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Yahoo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:38 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.

This bill is heartless. PLEASE work in concert with the democrats for a bipartisan bill to fix the issues with Obamacare. Don't put millions of people's lives at risk to get a political win.

Alexander O'Leary
Billerica, Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kostya [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham-Heller bill - please vote NO!

To the Senate Finance Committee -

Please vote NO against the Cassidy-Graham-Heller bill this week. It ends many workers' ability to get coverage from their employers. It leaves poor and ill Americans without the ability to buy (*somewhat* affordable) insurance at all--they would *not* get medical care they need. Finally it slashes Medicare for seniors, children, and the disabled.

States would LOSE money under the Cassidy-Graham-Heller proposal (compared to the ACA), because many block grants will be generally AND proportionately less than the subsidies which individual citizens now get to help pay for insurance. And then the money will be reduced further.

I am a middle class retired working citizen. Although I now have healthcare through my employer--I still worry about what happens if I get sick or injured, or if I have trouble paying for healthcare in retirement. So does ALMOST EVERYBODY--and this is why we need to keep a nationally managed healthcare/insurance option, not just a limited and *temporary* buying-off of individual state legislatures with grants.

I say to you Senators of the committee:

Please stop trying to destroy a decent health insurance program. The Cassidy-Graham-Heller proposal fixes/covers almost nothing, and is NOT better. Its core is to defund the ACA program for the sake of VERY narrowly targeted tax breaks.

Please also stop trying to 'beat the (parliamentary rules) clock.' You have no excuse for bypassing the negotiative work of actual legislative process towards a real fix. Specifically, the idea of continuing to a vote without full information from the Congressional Budget Office on the bill is simply a sham.

Please vote NO on advancing, continuing, or passing Graham-Cassidy-Heller!

Dr. Constantine LaPasha
Durham, North Carolina

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Catherine Mayhew <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee members:

I am writing to convey my frustration and anger that the Senate once again is trying to ram through a health care bill without hearings, markups, and a real debate about what the bill contains and the effects it will have on 1/6th of the economy. That the Senate would even consider voting on a bill that impacts 1/6 of the US economy without a CBO score, without debate, is astoundingly cynical and irresponsible.

We want bipartisan legislation to improve the ACA. We want preexisting conditions to be covered, lifetime caps to remain lifted, Medicaid fully funded. We want states to be properly funded. We want all Americans to not be bankrupted by an illness. Cassidy Graham will destroy our health care system, and it will destroy it for no other purpose than a "win" for the Republican party for whom a "win" is only to try to destroy with no purpose beyond the destruction. But the cost of this cynicism is human lives.

We should all work to alleviate human suffering wherever we can. This is an easy call. Voting NO on Cassidy Graham is fiscally responsible and morally right. Cassidy Graham is legislative malpractice.

Sincerely,

Catherine Mayhew
[REDACTED]

Baltimore, MD 21212

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Altman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare/access essential for all, including pre-existing conditions

It's essential that any healthcare legislation has strong consumer protections and helps those with pre-existing conditions. The "Graham-Cassidy" healthcare repeal bill does not do this.

Ultimately we need a thoughtful, bipartisan process to solve this.

Toxins in air, water, and food are increasing chronic diseases like cancer and treatment is abominable. We can't poison the people and then reduce access and increase cost of healthcare and insurance at the same time. It's our responsibility to fix what's broken, and not walk away. Insurance and healthcare must be for everyone, not just the wealthy.

I believe Functional Medicine and other alternative approaches may be helpful in improving health and preventing chronic disease. Let's work toward improving quality of life and not going backward to hurtful policy that exclude groups of people unfairly.

Jan

Jan Altman, PhD
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara E. Mann [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Senator (Gillibrand)
Subject: Save the Affordable Care Act

On behalf of myself and my family, including a teenage and an elderly parent, I ask that you not approve the newly-introduced legislation that would overturn the set of healthcare provisions known as Obamacare. You owe it to your constituents to preserve the essential protections and services provided by that bill; instead of overturning them, you must work toward a more equitable and comprehensive health insurance plan for all — one that protects against preexisting conditions, and provides basic dignity for our aging population.

Thank you,

Professor Barbara Mann

Barbara E. Mann
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NY, NY 10027
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Celeste Hunt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Gale Touger; jan orourke
Subject: On Repeal & Replace

Senator Kennedy,

I am on the leadership team of Lowcountry Solidarity, a women's resistance group borne of the Women's March, whose primary stated mission is to "recover democracy by building bridges and engaging in community conversation." One of the issues most near and dear to our hearts is affordable healthcare for ALL Americans. As constituents of Lindsey Graham, we are saddened and horrified that he is shepherding this horrendous legislation. We pray the Senate stands up for us and kills this bill!

Below is a sampling of the correspondence we have been sending him since the inauguration of a man we all know to be unstable and temperamentally unfit for office! (As an aside, Senator Graham refuses to come to Beaufort County to personally address our concerns):

Senator Graham,

Do you read your comments on social media or listen to the concerns of your constituents? I have written, ResistBot'd, sent you messages via FB and Twitter for months, on a variety of issues, and the only responses I get are those damned form letters. I have repeatedly asked for a Town Hall in Beaufort County, to no avail.

The overwhelming majority of responses are negative and adamantly opposed to this destructive healthcare bill, but you clearly do not care. You continue to act like it is for the good of the people. An estimated 32 million Americans will lose their healthcare under this plan. That, in MY book, is not good.

Look, I know you're trying to get a "win" for the President & the GOP, but he IS going to be impeached and probably imprisoned for high crimes and misdemeanors against the American people. He is a traitor. How, sir, will the history books remember you? Our children and grandchildren are watching.

#LowcountrySolidarity

cc: Senator Tim Scott

Good luck this week, Senator, and thanks for soliciting the input of We, the People!

Celeste Hunt
Beaufort, South Carolina

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Audrey Mouser [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

NO to Graham-Cassidy

Audrey Elegbede
[REDACTED]
La Crosse, WI 54601

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Steinhauer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, 9/25/17

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I am a psychiatrist and bioethicist in Chicago. I am writing to voice my alarm that the Graham-Cassidy bill is even being entertained by the Senate.

The cuts to Medicaid are draconian and reckless. Under Graham-Cassidy, millions of Americans will lose their insurance due to the elimination of marketplace subsidies, smaller and eventually decimated Medicaid block grants, and unreasonable premium surcharges when states exercise their waiver option. The waiver text that ends federal protections for pre-existing conditions and prevents annual and lifetime caps on benefits is cruel and will add to the numbers of uninsured Americans. As more citizens are uninsured, the inevitable costs of health care will be transferred to those fortunate enough to have employment and insurance. More uninsured patients requires more treatment in county hospitals, which will be funded by taxpayer dollars.

Many of my patients in recent years have for the first time been able to access mental health treatment with the Affordable Care Act's removal of pre-existing condition clauses. This has allowed for primary preventive care and has saved in health care costs down the road. Denying Americans insurance due to pre-existing conditions is unethical, heartless, and economically shortsighted. If we do not allow Americans to receive basic primary medical and mental health care, including health care in pregnancy and well-child visits, we will be saddled with the burden of caring for more severe, complex chronic illnesses that might have been averted or modified with earlier interventions.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill provides no funding for natural disasters, public health emergencies, or recessions. States will be economically devastated by dealing with the health care costs from an infectious pandemic or natural disaster. All states will enter a fiscal crisis in 2027 when block grants are eliminated.

This bill will not just be devastating to patients, the elderly, women, the indigent and the disabled. This bill will devastate the American healthcare system and the dedicated practitioners who provide compassionate care.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill will increase costs, decrease accessibility, result in harm and death to countless Americans. This is a travesty of a bill, being rushed through without any vetting, without any CBO score and without debate. It is a crime against humanity. Illness is not a failure of willpower. Unemployment and poverty are not character defects. Any one of us is vulnerable to illness, infirmity, disability, unemployment or changed financial circumstances. It is unconscionable to suggest otherwise.

Please do not dismiss this as an isolated viewpoint. The Graham-Cassidy bill is opposed by:

The American Medical Association
The American Psychiatric Association
The American Public Health Association
The National Institute for Reproductive Health
the Federation of American Hospitals
The American Academy of Pediatrics

The Association of American Medical Colleges
The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists....and many more.

Please reject this bill. Instead, work together in a bipartisan fashion to strengthen the ACA's individual markets and find ways to increase competition among insurers across the country. Any bill with such enormous impact on the lives of millions of Americans ought to be able to garner 60 votes after debate, vetting and receiving a favorable CBO score.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Steinhauer, MD

Elizabeth Steinhauer, MD, LLC

[REDACTED]
Chicago, IL
60601
[REDACTED]

Send a message to my personal SecureInbox:

https://www.privacydatasystems.net/csi_send_2.aspx?csiid=07da118d-bbcf-4570-990c-71780bec7a84

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SallieSmith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid

Please oppose Graham Cassidy. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan OBrien <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 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 a pre-existing condition of chronic asthma and a sinus condition. I agree with Senator John McCain that this legislation has not had enough public scrutiny. Don't we all benefit from getting healthcare legislation completely right? I believe Members of Congress have the obligation to protect our most vulnerable citizens. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it!

Best Regards,

Megan O'Brien

[REDACTED]
Lagrange, IL 60525

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elaine Nell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: bribery

Dear Senators,

We also want to comment on the reports of some members of the GOP trying to bribe senators into voting for the Graham-Cassidy bill by offering their states exemptions and other special considerations. This is so incredibly disappointing and infuriating not to mention unethical and unprofessional! You can be sure we will remember those of you who are doing this when it comes time to vote next. Please stop playing games with our healthcare. You are putting all of our lives at risk but especially our children's lives! Children are the future. Please find a way to work with Democrats and create a bipartisan healthcare bill that will preserve America's future and quality healthcare for all citizens. It's time to "play nicely in the sandbox", quit bickering, and get things done.

Sincerely,

Bill and Elaine Nell

[REDACTED]
Clemmons, NC 27012

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Viola Paluzzi [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing Sept 25 2017

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
September 25 2017

[REDACTED]
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill. I have been diagnosed with a serious, life-limiting illness, and will literally die without healthcare. This bill removes protections for pre-existing conditions, and guts Medicaid funding. States cannot afford to provide healthcare on their own. Millions of fellow American citizens will be without affordable healthcare options if this bill passes. Senators are elected in the belief that they will fight for and protect their constituents, not hasten their deaths to appease billionaire donors. Please please do not allow this to happen!

Thank you for hearing my plea. Respectfully, Viola Paluzzi

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Mossman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to any legislation which seeks to limit healthcare, such as the Graham-Cassidy bill. Why? Because I see healthcare and access to healthcare as a human right, and a fundamental foundation for a healthy society. Healthcare is not something that should only be available to the lucky and the wealthy. My husband is a physician and I worked in his office doing the billing. I saw firsthand the nightmare that is private insurance, both for patients and healthcare providers. My husband and I now live in France where he works at a public hospital. I now have seen firsthand how people here with pre-existing conditions and severe illnesses do not have to fear being cut off from their health insurance or their healthcare. My husband and I no longer have to worry about affording our own insurance. The United States need to expand access to healthcare, not give handouts to private insurance companies. To restrict access to healthcare is to sink into barbarism.

Thank you for your attention, and I pray you do the right thing.

Elizabeth Mossman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sstonework [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 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.

Samantha Stonework-Hand
Walnut Creek, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy, Fix the ACA

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions; ACA makes it possible for me to have healthcare AND to pay my share into the system.

I URGE you and CHALLENGE you to work for a bipartisan approach to fixing and strengthening the ACA for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Karen Kohlhaas
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katy Koser [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition of Graham-Cassidy proposal

Hello,

My name is Kathryn Koser and I live near Danville, Pennsylvania. I am writing to ask that you now repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act with the Graham-Cassidy Proposal. There are too many issues with this and it will hurt many Americans. I work at a crime victim center that also has 2 emergency shelters. Many of our clients receive state/federal funded health care. The proposals will hurt our clients and leave many of them un- or under-insured. I understand and agree that the Affordable Care Act has its own problems, but this proposal will not solve all of those problems, while still creating its own. Please re-consider.

1. Healthcare coverage should be affordable, attainable and adequate to meet the health needs of children, families and individuals living in Pennsylvania.
2. Medicaid is critical to families and communities. Currently, Medicaid provides comprehensive and affordable healthcare coverage to over 2.8 Million Pennsylvanians 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.

Sincerely,
Kathryn M. Koser

[REDACTED]
Danville, PA 17821
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Harris Bouvier-Weinberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill

Dear Senators:

I write to submit comments on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill, under discussion today by the Finance Committee. I urge the Committee to **oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill** today.

I wish you could meet me. I am an engaging young man (23), who has a love of life, jokes, and an expertise in music—I especially love early rock 'n roll and Lawrence Welk. I also have autism and significant vision impairments. I have many skills, and with supervision, I am able to do a wide variety of jobs. In the past two years, I have volunteered at over eight non-profit and for-profit agencies to help him develop vocational skills and improve his employability. I work very hard, and make steady, slow progress. But I can be impulsive; I do not have a sense of safety (e.g., because of my vision issues I cannot identify moving cars when out in the community); and I have difficulty communicating with others without assistance. There is no question that I am able to work and contribute to the betterment of society, but I am likely to always need some level of close supervision or support to do so.

I graduated from school last June (non-diploma track) and currently participates in a Medicaid waiver program. As a “waiver program,” it is my understanding that the program is funded with federal Medicaid and state funds jointly. These funds, administered through my state DDA, covers the costs of an “adult services provider” to help my develop work skills, increase my independence, and participate in community activities. In this program, I am generally happy, and am proud of the work I do —especially when I am helpful to other people.

Because I need constant supervision, without this program, my family could never afford the level of support that the Medicaid waiver program provides. My mother would have to quit her job to be with me 24/7. The economy loses one good worker; my family becomes less able to pay for our bills (including health care). Then, I would be able to be kept safe. But, my mother does not have the training, connections, nor energy to provide the level of employment and recreational opportunities for me that my “adult services provider” team is able to provide. And, as a young man with autism, who needs to work at making social connections, I especially benefit from the social engagement that is required of me to participate in my program.

Further, the Medicaid waiver program is important because it enables me to become accustomed to relying on people other than my parents to me learn how to meet my needs. Like any young adult, I am too old to continue to rely on my mom for everything! It is time for me to meet other people, and develop a network of non-family members who I enjoy and who enjoys my company. As my parents near retirement, the pressing need for me to have others in my life who understand and love me, and will watch out for my needs when my parents are gone feels very urgent. My parents are trying to be proactive and have plans in place for the future, but this is not something they can do alone. The Medicaid waiver program is a lifesaver for me, and is helping me get ready for his future.

Please protect Medicaid and my future, and the future of others with life-long developmental disorders.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Preethi Ganapathy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

Hello,

I'm writing in regards to the Graham - Cassidy health care bill. It's yet another abomination aimed at stripping this country's citizens of our inalienable rights. This bill is again aimed at giving the wealthy top notch access to health care while leaving the rest of us hanging. Pre existing conditions are one again un covered. Pregnancy is a pre existing condition, the cost of which goes up by \$17000. This is unaffordable and in essence birth control. Republicans have always proudly and vociferously denounces government issued birth control. What is this then? By making costs so high they are essentially controlling who can have children and who cannot. This is government over reach.

This bill makes living in this country impossible.

KILL THIS BILL!

Thank you,
Preethi Ganapathy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Nurse [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please I Implore you do not cut funds to Medicaid you will devastate and bring down the quality of care to individuals with disability.

Good day, I hope all is well with you and your family. I advocate on behalf of my daughter and other disabled individuals and their families. My daughter's disability and medical need will not change. She does not walk or talk has a seizure disorder, respiratory issues and other medical conditions. She is seventeen years old and her quality of life has improves since the doctors told us at four months that she is a vegetable and that she will not survive. By God's grace and her health insurance, she is a beautiful and health teenager. She depends on all of us to do right by her. Don't cut of her life support and the quality of her health by cutting medicaid funds, non coverage of preexisting conditions and other benefits. Everything for medical care and equipment cost four times more for individuals with disabilities and their family, a fact and way of life that the general population does not experience. Please listen to us and to hurt us in this manner. We are counting on you to continue working as hard as you have done in the pass to protect and service us. Do not pass this death sentence on us. Life is extremely difficult as it is with have and caring for a child with a medical disability do not add another nail to the coffin of our children's disability that we are already in. Thank you for listening and working to making our lives better.

Sincerely,
Karen Mitchell-Nurse

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kobilarov, Aleks [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:34 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.

Aleks Kobilarov
Columbia, SC

Aleks Kobilarov, PMP® [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | US | [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Meganne Masko [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:36 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.

Meganne Masko
Avon, Indiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Madeleine Dimond [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health care bill

To those who are listening,
Please don't return us to the days before the ACA (and worse).

My family never made a career choice in this century that wasn't based on health care. My husband, though trim and athletic, developed diabetes. Though he kept his blood numbers so controlled that doctors were inclined to disbelieve him diabetic, the insurance companies happily did so and refused coverage at every opportunity. We both took a succession of awful jobs, any job that would include him in the health care plans. I had been self-employed for years; I had to end that so that he could have insurance.

My son never had insurance as an adult—how we would have loved the insurance-until-26 provision!—until the ACA. He bought a premium plan and was diagnosed with cancer the first month he had it. I'll never forget our first conversation about it, when I offered my retirement savings to help him. He kept saying, "No, that's covered. I don't need help." As worried as we were about his health, it was a relief to know we didn't have to worry about bankruptcy for the whole family. And he hasn't had to make the same choices we have. Long a victim of the gig economy, with the ability to buy his own health insurance that did not rise because of his diagnosis, he was able to found his own company, which has given him a much steadier paycheck than bouncing from employer to employer.

My friends and I stand on the brink of retirement, having made choices and preparations that Congress now threatens to make moot with their plans. One family has saved to provide for their Trisomy 23 child—but will not have enough for his lifetime if the state provisions are gone. I worry about my son, helped so much by the ACA. How can I help him in the future if Congress takes away his healthcare or makes it unaffordable, the Graham-Cassidy plan does?

I can't imagine being a young woman today and living under a health care plan that declares you a pre-existing condition.

Any plan can be improved, and after several years, particularly with Republican sabotage, we know where the ACA needs improvement. So can we address those areas and tweak them rather than throw it out (along with the health care of millions of Americans) in the never-ending game of political football?

Sincerely
Mary Reardon
78653

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Beth Waller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy and my ACA story

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I send this message to you seeking to be heard in my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

I was born and raised in North Carolina and have made my home here and am raising my own family here. I know now, more than ever, that my own Senators do not care about my opinions, much less the physical and mental wellbeing of the citizens of this state. This is why I felt compelled to write you.

I will briefly tell you my own personal ACA story: I am an attorney and have always worked as an independent contractor. I have always been insured through my husband's employer plans. In 2014, my first-born child was delivered 4 weeks early due to pregnancy complications. We were fortunate that he was born healthy and required no extra time in the hospital. However, my next pregnancy was labeled "high-risk" from the start, meaning extra check ups and testing to ensure the continued health of me and my baby.

During my second pregnancy, my husband was laid off from his job. COBRA was about \$1600 per month. I was able to purchase insurance for me and my family because of the ACA at a cost of about \$700 per month. I feel fortunate, because I know even \$700 is a huge amount for many Americans, but we were able to make it work. Prior to the ACA and under the Graham-Cassidy bill, my pregnancy would have likely drained us financially.

Fortunately, my husband was offered a new job a week later. We still had to wait 90 days for him to be eligible to enroll in his insurance plan. We were able to switch to his employer plan about a week before I gave birth.

My second pregnancy did not have the same complications as my first, but I can only imagine if it had. I would have been unable to work or to get healthcare coverage. My family would have suffered greatly.

I know that my ability to buy a house and later accept a new job are directly related to my ability to obtain affordable healthcare coverage during my second pregnancy.

I'm deeply concerned about the impact that the Graham-Cassidy bill will have on people like me. More than that, though, I'm concerned about the impact that it will have on people who are less fortunate.

Nobody should be forced to roll the dice on their own health or the health of their child. I'm thankful that I didn't have to because of the ACA.

I believe that there is a better solution than the Graham-Cassidy bill and I respectfully request that this committee make such a determination.

Thank you,

Laura Beth Waller
[REDACTED]
Zebulon, NC 27597
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Schaffer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am writing to express my grave concerns about the impact of the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill, and urge you to oppose it!!

My mother has worked with people with disabilities for the past 43 years. I grew up going into work with her and meeting these people and observing their struggle to get to do the simple every day tasks you and I take for granted. I know all too well that the recovery they make, and the quality of life they can achieve, is directly linked to the insurance and resource coverage they have. Some are lucky, many are not. Many rely on the services and supports provided through Medicaid programs, either because they did not have resources prior to their injuries, or because the care required by their injuries drained their monies. I also know that ALL of them will have "pre-existing" conditions for the rest of their lives.

The proposed Graham-Cassidy bill will gut the Medicaid program and pit one disability group against another through block grants. Furthermore, relying on States to decide how to treat pre-existing conditions gives no protection to those individuals with pre-existing conditions. We all know that the policies of any give State can change drastically based on the times and financial strains of that State – and it is usually the people who are in most need who get cut out in the process.

So again I strongly urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We need health care reform, but it should come as no surprise to any of us that this is complicated, and deserves a reasoned, measured, bi-partisan effort to address what will affect every citizen in the country! It should be developed and debated for years. What has been put on the table as "reform" is a false stab at winning political points and not a real effort or job well done meant to protect and service Americans.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please support those who rely on your protection!!

Beth Schaffer

--

Beth Schaffer
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Senators: I strongly oppose the current version, as of today, 9-25-2017, of the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. It is a death bill. A multitude of respected American healthcare organizations have stated their opposition to this bill and I trust their analysis. Please do not vote for this bill. There are several members of my family whose lives will be put at risk should this bill become law. You can and should do better: restore the normal order of bill progress through the Congressional system and stop this madness.

Sincerely,
Jeanmarie Epperly
Wichita, KS 67212

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hana Cisarova [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:35 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.

Hana Shannon
NYC, NY

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Jordan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO on Graham-Cassidy

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments. I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill and urge that this never be voted in, for these reasons:

- * It brings back pre-existing conditions clauses.
- * It allows insurers to raise rates when a patient receives a new diagnosis.
- * It allows states to cut funding for, or let insurers exclude:
 - * maternity services
 - * hospitalizations
 - * laboratory tests
 - * dental benefits for children
 - * mental health
 - * substance abuse programs
- * Individual states will be allowed to prevent women's clinics from charging Medicaid for services like cancer screenings and birth control.
- * It shifts billions of dollars of costs onto states, giving them incentive to cut the above items.
- * It lets states spend block grants on non-healthcare spending. [My personal experience with this was watching Ontario spend healthcare dollars on highways, which led to nursing shortages and extended waiting periods - this is a particularly terrible idea.]
- * Federal aid for Medicaid would plummet.
- * Insurers would be able to double their surcharge on elderly customers.
- * It kills the ACA's insurance subsidies.

Millions of people will be hurt by this bill, including people I know and love.

--
Sharon Jordan
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jason Stefaniak [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I do not support the Graham-Cassidy bill in any form

Hello,

I'm writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal bill - and any partisan attempt to repeal the ACA. I care deeply about Americans, across the political spectrum, being able to access affordable healthcare. I see it as a human right - we only have one life on this earth, and it isn't fair to allow people to die because they don't have insurance. It's immoral. I was able to stay on my parent's health insurance because of the ACA when I transitioned from college to grad school. I have two young friends with life threatening conditions that would not be on this earth today if it weren't for the ACA.

I support bipartisan work to improve the health insurance system we have under the ACA. I do not support - and never will support - any attempt to cut funding from the system or any legislation that makes it harder for people to access quality healthcare.

Jason Stefaniak
Astoria, NY

--
Jason Stefaniak
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: lildi94 [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:34 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.

[Your name]
[City, State]

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:34 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.

It decimates state budgets that are already stretched too thin to combat the opioid crisis we are facing. Peoples lives hang in the balance.

Morgan Cramer
Cincinnati, Ohio

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shea, Laura R [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:34 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.

Laura Shea
Cincinnati OH

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helene Udell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Dear Senators,

I have a grandchild with autism for whom access to health insurance has been and will likely again be essential to his ability to live and be productive. I am imploring you to vote against any form of ACA repeal that doesn't ensure coverage at least as thorough and available as what exists now.

I could cite study after study, but instead I'll simply say this: people will suffer and die if the ACA is repealed and "replace" by the feeble excuse for a plan that is the Graham-Cassidy bill. That this country might become the cruelest place imaginable-one that intentionally deprives its citizens of life-preserving and life-saving measures because federalism and state experimentation seem attractive - is deeply disappointing to me.

"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?" Is, 58:6.

Don't place the yoke back onto children like my grandson. Don't make America cruel.

Save the ACA.

Helene Udell
[REDACTED]

Plainfield, IN 46168
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kevin Boyle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony Opposing Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to state my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal in the strongest possible terms. I have two adult children, both with a genetic disorder. My daughter is able to work 25 hours a week, but only because she has her medication covered through the Medicaid expansion. Without her medication, she would be unable to work, and would need to apply for SSDI. My ...son has severe autism, in addition (or as a result of) his genetic disorder. He takes the same medication as his sister, as well as a broad range of psychotropic medication -- all covered by Medicaid. He lives in a group home, half the cost of which is covered by a Medicaid Home and Community Based Services waiver. Much of the cost of his day habilitation program is also covered by Medicaid. My wife and I both receive our insurance through the ACA exchange, as I am self-employed small business owner and my wife is the president of a small non-profit organization.

This bill would be a perfect storm. It is disingenuous to think that state legislatures in states that wise accepted the Medicaid expansion would be able to replace the funding gap created by block granting of Medicaid. For example, in Massachusetts, MassHealth represents 40% of the state budget, about half of which comes from federal Medicaid. Block granting Medicaid would result in an ugly competition for resources among the elderly who rely on Medicaid for nursing home care, group home residents with severe disabilities, and others with disabilities who are at grave risk of homelessness without long term services and supports that are currently entitlements but would almost definitely become discretionary under block granting. Elimination of the Medicaid expansion would result in people like my daughter losing their ability to work at all.

I urge you to reject this bill and restore regular order.

Kevin Boyle

Winchester, Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: karen wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC Bill

This bill is a travesty to every American who has ever gotten sick or might get sick. One's health is not always a choice but completely out of one's control. This bill penalizes every American for we all deal with health issues in our lives.

How can the representatives we send to Congress to act on our behalf, so heartlessly destroy us?

We are so sick of a partisan Congress. My votes going forward will only be for those who speak of the value of bipartisanship and compromise and to those looking at the long term health of our country not short term fixes to satisfy a small group.

Enough of this! Stand up for what is right for all Americans.

Karen Wilson
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tiffany Newman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep ACA

Good morning-

My mother has a host of pre-existing conditions including post-polio that I would think Senate Majority Leader McConnell is aware of the health issues given he was stricken by polio as a child too. After Dad was killed on the job one of our concerns was her ability to pay for her medical care and insurance. Thankfully Dad's unused sick leave paid for her health insurance (which is now her supplemental to Medicare).

My sister's fiancé may have Parkinson's. And this unnecessary drive to repeal ACA is causing her great concern. Under the GOP so called healthcare bills- the cost of his future care will most likely max out their coverage. She makes decent money but not enough to cover household bills and medical bills.

My assistant can't have her gall bladder removed due to Medicaid not being expanded in VA and she can't afford to pay for her own insurance coverage.

Instead of doing away with ACA, why aren't we trying to figure out why healthcare is so expensive in this country? The GOP so called healthcare bills are not solving the actual problems of healthcare in this country.

Tiffany L Newman, M.S
Current resident of VA, native of CA, and local of WI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Gordon-Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy comments

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

As the parent of an autistic child with severe epilepsy, I have no choice but to fight for her RIGHT TO LIFE - not just access to the medical care that she must have to stay alive, but to LIFE and everything that it entails - joy and heartache, trials and triumph, hard work and reward -- a place in her community.

Despite many of your colleagues' false assurances to the contrary, Graham Cassidy leaves those with pre-existing conditions (like autism and 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 daughter, and not just my but OUR sacred responsibility to fight for her Right to Life.

Please, I'm begging, VOTE NO ON GRAHAM CASSIDY.

Sincerely,

Jess Wilson
Newton, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Conway [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing with grave concerns about the Graham-Cassidy bill. If enacted, this would hurt many, many Americans, especially the most vulnerable ones with disabilities, elderly, children and behavioral health involvement.

The proposed cuts and restructuring will change the very essence of Medicaid and harm those vulnerable Americans, many of whom cannot speak for themselves. Millions of Americans will lose their Medicaid services and/or their healthcare coverage making America a sicker nation. Pennsylvania alone is estimated to lose \$6 billion by 2027. Yet that need along with those waiting for services will still exist. Many Americans depend on Medicaid for basic life-sustaining services. How, in good conscience can anyone enact something so harmful?

Some may point to the positive budgetary impact this may have on the national budget. Let me caution you that nothing happens in a vacuum. The need will still be there. Only it will pop up in other parts of the budget. Perhaps it will appear in increased criminal justice costs, increased institutional costs, increased homelessness. Or worse than any budgetary impact, it may result in an increase death toll for America as the opioid crisis spins further out of control with the imminent cuts to the necessary treatments and solutions are slashed this bill would impose.

This is one of the most potentially harmful bills that has been proposed in generations and whose devastating impact will be felt for many generations to come. It certainly is not something I want to give to my children and grandchildren.

I urge you all to vote "NO" for the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Diane Conway

18940
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: james askew [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:46 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.

On a personal note, Graham-Cassidy would threaten my ability to carry insurance at a reasonable price, as I was born with aortic stenosis and have received several surgeries to repair it over my lifetime. Allowing states to reintroduce lifetime caps and tiered pricing based on pre-existing conditions threatens to make me uninsured. I've been there before, and it's awful. I don't care to relive it.

James Askew
Los Angeles, CA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James G. Joyce [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed PPACA repeal legislation

To whom it may concern:

I would have but one suggestion concerning the repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Don't.

Even without an official "scoring" by the Congressional Budget Office, it has been estimated that as many as thirty-two million Americans will lose health care coverage if the repeal is approved. That is as close to a legislative crime as I have witnessed in my entire life.

The United States of America is the ONLY developed nation in the world that doesn't have some form of single-payer health insurance that is provided by the nation. It is a disgrace to our nation that our elected representatives are not representing the interests of the majority of Americans, choosing instead to represent corporate interests by passing what amounts to a tax cut for the wealthiest of our country.

I implore you to not pass this repeal. Please, do what America has done since she first came into being ... work together, build compromise and consensus, and forge a plan of action that will benefit ALL our citizens, not just a few. Do your best to live up to our motto on the Great Seal of the United States: E Pluribus Unum.

Respectfully,

James G. Joyce

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: L Phillips [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:45 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.

Lynne Culberson Phillips
Ellicott City, MD

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

Dear Senators,

I live in Rochester MN with the great Mayo Clinic. That in it self has made my health care in SE MN very costly.

I am 60 year old women, self employed on the individual market, before ACA my cost of Insurance was very high and going up every year. With the ACA the cost have gone down, even though it has risen I am still below what I was paying pre ACA

Please fix the ACA, keep the mandate and allow this to work. What you the senate are doing is going to throw the whole market in mess. Also as John McCain said, regular order. You did debate the ACA and added changes allow the whole senate, women, and Democrats to weigh in also.

Thank you
Stephanie Snow
Rochester, MN 55904

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Neal Goldfarb [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:45 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.

Neal Goldfarb
Washington, DC

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Bowman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing testimony. September 25, 2017

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kathy Bowman <[REDACTED]>
Date: September 25, 2017 at 4:46:28 AM PDT
To: GCHcomments@finance.senate.g
Subject: **Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing testimony. September 25, 2017**

September 25, 2017
Hearing on the Graham Cassidy Bill

Testimony from:
Katherine Bowman, Ph.D.
[REDACTED]
Berkeley, CA 94708

I am writing to express my strong opposition to passage of the Graham Cassidy Bill.

Passage of this bill would toll a death knell to Medicaid or Affordable Care Act insurance plans upon which tens of millions of Americans rely for obtaining health care. Without insurance these millions of people will have no choice but to rely upon emergency room services which are not designed to provide ongoing health care. This will result in inadequate care and therefore increased mortality and will, in addition, drive up the cost of healthcare to the general public, upon whom the cost of this healthcare will ultimately fall. In addition, it is my understanding, that under this bill provisions currently in ACA requiring coverage for mental health and substance abuse treatment and prohibiting denial of service for individuals with preexisting conditions will no longer be in effect. The suffering, and indeed mortality, that will result from inability of all but the wealthy, who can afford to pay for these services out of pocket, will be enormous. This is heartless, cruel, inhumane and totally unacceptable in a country as wealthy as the United States, a country that can allocate \$80 billion for defense spending. No other developed nation in the world allows such a high number of its population to go without necessary healthcare as would occur under this bill.

Personally, passage of this bill would affect me on several levels.

First of all, I have several pre-existing conditions and would likely be bankrupted by or totally unable to afford treatment for them should it be required without my health insurance. I

have had cancer twice and have osteoporosis. Aside from not wanting to die from lack of treatment, I believe that my death would be a loss to the community, in particular to the patients that I serve as a psychologist and in my volunteer activities, as well as to my family and friends. I do not believe that my life is worth any less because I am not wealthy enough to pay for all of the treatment that I might require.

Secondly, I would be affected in that my son and daughter-in-law, who currently cannot afford health insurance on their own and rely upon Medicaid for their health needs, would no longer have access to healthcare. These are bright young people who will, when they have completed their education, have much to offer to the community.

Finally, I will be personally impacted financially should this bill be passed. As I noted above, I am a psychologist. My work is primarily with individuals suffering from chronic illnesses and/or depression. A large proportion of these clients are on disability, unable to work because of their conditions. Many of them depend upon health insurance plans provided under the current Affordable Care Act to pay for my services. Their suffering would greatly increase without my assistance in helping them to cope with the effects of their disability and/or their chronic illness(es). My services help them to be as productive and functional in their lives as possible. Without such assistance their ability to give back to their communities would be diminished. These people are valuable members of society but do not have the wealth to pay for mental and physical health care without insurance. The ripple effect on my ability to afford to keep my psychology practice open in my specialty area would be profoundly negative.

Finally, I am strongly opposed to this bill because I feel that it is heartless, mean-spirited and inhumane. I strongly believe in the golden rule, that we have a responsibility as individuals and as a nation to do unto others as we would have them do unto us. Our country is certainly wealthy enough to take care of those who are less fortunate but no less valuable as human beings than are the wealthy and powerful.

I urge you as strongly as I can to vote NO on the Graham Cassidy Bill.

Thank you.
Katherine Bowman, Ph.D.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trach Mommas [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Trach Mommas of Louisiana

Please add these verbal outcries for help to the records electronically if possible <https://www.facebook.com/louisiana4savingmedicaid2017/videos/129435434312342/>

Sincerely,
Angéla Lorio, [REDACTED]
Jessica Michot, [REDACTED]
Founding Partners

*Trach Mommas of Louisiana
Taking it One Breath at a Time*

[REDACTED]

Find Trach Mommas of Louisiana on Facebook and Twitter

Shipping Address for Harvey Medical Supply Donations
Trach Mommas of Louisiana: [REDACTED]
Baton Route, LA 70809, Deliveries are by appointment only.

Hurricane Harvey Disaster Response PayPal [REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn White [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill
Attachments: IMG_8856.mp4; IMG_8856.mp4

Please see attached video. Please vote no on this bill and be the voice for those with disabilities in our Country.

Dawn White

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: letitia van campen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Senators,

I am a mother of an epileptic child. I worry that the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill would impact him and children like him in two ways.

1. Lifetime caps - if he hits a cap on trips to the emergency room for seizures, what will happen if he ever has an even more serious issue?
2. Pre-existing conditions- will my son ever be able to qualify for insurance as an adult, or will he be considered a liability right from the start of his adult life?

My son's epilepsy is not as severe as that of many children, and we are lucky that we have never had to make the decision on whether or not to call an ambulance based on the cost. But many parents of epileptic children are not so lucky. This bill will affect children on Medicaid now.

No parent should worry that they will not be able to afford an ambulance or a trip to the ER. No child should be in a situation where preventative seizure medication is beyond their family's means.

Please do not remove these programs and protections for our children.

Thank you,

Letitia Van Campen
Ashburn, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Arey Missen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

To the United States Senate Committee on Finance:

It is my understanding that you will be convening to host a public hearing on the Graham-Cassidy-Johnson-Heller bill, and that this bill will cut Medicaid, impose Medicaid per-capita caps, and weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions.

I am writing to ask you to quash this bill. Here are my personal stories describing why.

First, in July, I learned that **my 60-year-old sister has been covered under Medicaid since 2014**. Prior to that, she had been living without health insurance since the early 1990s (just imagine, nearly 30 years without health insurance!), when she could no longer obtain gainful employment due to a diagnosis of schizophrenia.

Under Medicaid, she is able to access mental health counseling and medication to help her manage her condition. She and I agree that with this counseling and medication—a small dose of a generic medication, risperdal—she functions far better than she has in the past.

Our mother passed away in July. As her power of attorney, healthcare power of attorney and—most importantly—as her sister loves her and is now guiding her care, **I worry that no access to Medicaid means a severe relapse and a bleak future for her.**

Secondly, at age 47, I am a three-time breast cancer survivor, having had my first diagnosis at age 22. For 25 years, I have lived with this pre-existing condition and—until the passage of the Affordable Care Act—feared I would never be able to buy into private insurance unless I had it under an employer.

My husband lost his job in May; we depended upon his employer for health insurance to cover ourselves and our two middle-school aged children.

We now have health insurance under Cobra, but with this new bill—I am deeply concerned about being able to buy private insurance in the coming years. Even with the ACA in place, the cost of private insurance is daunting. **With the passage of the Graham-Cassidy-Johnson-Heller bill, I worry that the purchase of private insurance for my family will literally be impossible.**

I know others who would be adversely impacted by the proposed changes to the ACA. I do not understand why Congress insists on threatening the protections afforded by the ACA. Judging by the national reaction to proposed changes to the ACA this year, the proposed repeal and replacement of the ACA is not something most Americans want.

Please put an end to this madness and halt the debate and passage of this bill. Keep the ACA in place and find a way to bring premiums down.

Sincerely,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Wilkes [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare for all Americans

Dear Senators,

I am the CEO of a small publishing firm with offices in Massachusetts and in Indiana. Our staff members depend on laws in place in the ACA that TRULY protect citizens with pre-existing conditions. Before ACA, our insurance premiums leaps higher every time someone on staff had a very sick child, or a serious medical issue. There are those who will say those protections are in place in the new bill. THEY ARE NOT. What's more, this sham of a plan that is now being offered in the most underhanded fashion, attempting to bribe Senators who are against the bill because it will hurt their constituents. The bill will still hurt their constituents-badly.

Senator McCain is right. This issue is too important to jump on the first train out of the station. It has the potential to do real harm to our people and our economy. Senators who are promised perks for their states know darn well that they can't rely on special arrangements for the long term. And in any case, this issue is so serious that any patriot would be assessing not only the welfare of their state, but of the country as a whole. That's how the United States works.

Please be responsible and offer the American people a bill they can get on board with. All the lies about what this proposed bill do are blatant. Regular order, hearings, discussion, serious planning, and collaboration are the only ways we will reach a lasting health care system to be proud of.

Any senator who votes for this sham of a bill is no patriot. One then must questions their motives.

Please don't let us down.

Sincerely,
Deborah Wilkes

Deborah Wilkes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Indianapolis, IN 46244

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allison Thurman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Lucy Cantrell; Alan. L. Thurman; Allison Thurman
Subject: Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal-please oppose

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

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Allison and Alan Thurman
[REDACTED]

My name is Allison Thurman and I live in Ashland, VA. My husband, Dr. Alan Thurman, and I are the proud parents of Alex, our eleven year old son. We are writing to ask that you oppose the Graham Cassidy bill.

My son was born with a very rare syndrome, Oculo Dento Digital Dysplasia-estimated at 1:12 million. As far as we know, he is the only person in Virginia with it. Nevertheless, not only is Alex's syndrome rare, but his particular symptoms seem to be even rarer when compared with others in the world with ODDD. His delays are much more prominent and he is on the autism spectrum. My husband, a local physician, and I are passionate about making Alex an active part of our community.

Alex has been on the DD waiting list for eight years and we have been forewarned that he will likely wait at least 15- maybe up to 20 years- for a waiver slot. Alex is fairly young but many of those waiting on the list are in critical situations with elderly parents, single parents, no parents or family members advocating for them, and/or medically complex situations. By Alex and others receiving Medicaid waivers,

they would receive the supports and services to enable them to be active members of their community participating in inclusive programs.

We ask that you oppose the Graham Cassidy bill so that our son, and others with disabilities, can continue to receive Medicaid services so they can be active members of our community.

Sincerely,

Allison and Alan Thurman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diana Colavita [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My comments

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of Hearing: September 25, 2017

Diana Colavita

[REDACTED]
Manhasset, NY 11030

Ladies, Gentlemen.

I am a 41 year old American who has been disabled since childhood by multiple neurological and psychological issues. I was institutionalized in my teens in various psychiatric hospital and residential treatment settings. I have struggled with employment and other aspects of functioning as an independent adult.

Over the years, Medicaid has been a lifeline to me. It has paid for my medical care, my psychiatric treatment, my medications, my therapy. At times it has also helped pay for my housing when I lived in community residences with support staff and for ongoing day treatment programs to help me deal with my symptoms, structure my time and meet my goals.

My current goal is to obtain training to become a certified peer counselor for others with serious mental health issues. This would be the first time in my life that I am able to truly pursue employment, but not only do I need Medicaid to continue to cover my treatment and meds while I do this, both the training program and the jobs I will be applying for receive Medicaid funding.

Graham-Cassidy is described as an ACA/Obamacare repeal bill. And it is that, which is terrible enough in my opinion. But it is also something else. It is a total restructuring of Medicaid, a government funded health care program that is older than I am. And the largest provider of medical coverage in this country. I am sure you have heard from many other people why cuts and per capita caps on the Medicaid program will be devastating for them. Here is why it will be devastating for me.

First off, community mental health programs have never been funded to the degree they were promised during deinstitutionalization, and are always the first on the chopping block when funds are low. Cutting and capping Medicaid will without a doubt defund these programs even more. Like I said above, not only are these programs therapeutic for me, they are my source of both job training and likely future employment.

Secondly, I have been privileged to have parents who both have the means and the desire to help support me both financially and practically. But they are getting older, and eventually I won't have their support anymore at all. As a seriously disabled person, I currently have the option of utilizing Home and Community Based Services to make sure I still have that practical support to live independently. But again, with Medicaid cuts and caps, HCBS are likely to also be affected. As I said before, I was institutionalized as a teenager, and to be frank, the last thing I want to do is to spend the remaining decades of my life in a similar setting. After everything I've been through to get the right support to live independently in the community, winding up back in a group home (or worse) simply because I don't have Medicaid

coverage to assist me in living elsewhere would be a blow to my very will to live. I know that sounds melodramatic, but I mean it in all seriousness. I still live with traumatic effects of my earlier institutional experiences, including nightmares of winding up back in those places, I simply can't go through that again.

Anyway, this has gotten long and I am sure you have a lot more emails to read, so I am just going to close with a thank you for reading this and a reminder that this vote will have a disastrous effect on the lives of millions of Americans and mine is just one single story among them. Please keep us all in mind as you make your vote.

Thank you again.

Diana Colavita

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Marie Ernst [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham Cassidy

I am writing today because I am HORRIFIED and deeply concerned about the implications of this bill for the entire country. Two in three seniors rely on Medicaid and this guts it. Lifetime limits would be gone. And despite lip service about preexisting conditions being covered, allowing companies to raise rates arbitrarily for those who have the nerve to have had childhood cancer, asthma, depression or God forbid a BABY means it's really no coverage at all. This bill will literally be a death sentence for millions and mean bankruptcy and choosing between food or a home and lifesaving medicine for so many others. It is an immoral bill that no one, not even insurance companies themselves approve of. Do not let this pass.

-Lisa Marie Ernst
Kalamazoo, MI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

Senate Finance Committee,

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act. After working all my life and receiving health insurance from my employers, it was a true lifeline to me during my time of unemployment. And the ability to have pre-existing conditions covered is invaluable and irreplaceable.

Thank you.

Pam Jones

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tanya Dapkey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it does not help the American people.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My brother was diagnosed with ALL when he was 17. If the ACA did not exist, his pre-existing condition of childhood cancer would prevent him from obtaining affordable health care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Tanya Dapkey
Levittown, PA

Tanya Dapkey

19057
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Felicia Griffin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO!

Hello - I am a Colorado voter and non-profit leader and urge you to vote no on the GCH bill today. If we want to "fix" the ACA we need to do it...it's irresponsible to repeal something without a thoughtful, comprehensive replacement option. This is not a partisan issue - this an issue of humanity...an issue put in your hands to protect your constituents- the American people.

Put this to bed until a reasonable option is provided. Join together as Dems and Republicans to do what's best for the American people!

Thank you for your service!

Davis and Felicia Griffin

Also on behalf of United for a New Economy.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Gavin-Leone [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:43 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.

Susan Gavin-Leone
Cinnaminson, NJ

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sean Zelig [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Being Pro-Life means more than just protecting our unborn. Being Pro-Life means protecting the sick, the elderly, those with pre-existing conditions, and all the people who rely on us to provide the care they need to live vitally. Please help protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

Please vote for country over party.

Please reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller.

Sean Zelig
West Chester, PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Gibson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:42 AM
To: Sue Gibson
Cc: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I consider the attack on Planned Parenthood to be a direct assault on the lives and liberty of American women; untenable, intolerable, and unforgivable.

Susan Gibson
Missouri

On Sep 25, 2017, at 12:47 AM, Sue Gibson [REDACTED] wrote:

During my career in nursing, I concluded that no one is either more or less deserving of healthcare than anyone else. All of humanity is worthy. It is atrocious that the U.S. has the least generous access to healthcare of any developed nation. There is no reason for that other than our greedy, selfish, corrupt Congress. My dear brother's life depends on Medicaid. My dear friend's livelihood depends on her autistic brother having the in-home care that Medicaid provides. My own life-sustaining medications are valued at \$4000/month, which I cannot pay. If the ACA is repealed, I am quite certain that at least half the country will be thrown into limbo due to pre-existing conditions. Congress has terrorized the nation over this issue long enough. Stop the madness immediately!
Susan Gibson
Missouri voter

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marty Olliff [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller which will 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.

Thanks you,
Martin T. Olliff
Dothan, Alabama

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Willow Gross [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller is not only immoral but fiscally irresponsible. Covering preventative treatment & basic healthcare for ALL Americans is cheaper than this nonsense.

Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Susan Dalton
NY, NY

--sent from my speak & spell--

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Arlotti-Parish [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

- Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
- Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
- Full Name: Elizabeth Mercedes Arlotti-Parish
- Address: [REDACTED]

I do not have a pre-existing condition, but my brother-in-law does. I do not rely on Medicaid, but my grandparents do. I do not have to worry about coverage caps, but I have friends who do. And I am a woman, which means I do need to worry every day that my access to sexual and reproductive health care will be taken away, that I may not be able to access contraception, or face exorbitant health care costs were I to become pregnant and have that pregnancy treated as a pre-existing condition. Most importantly, I am a human being, and it concerns and angers me that our government is willing to deny the right to quality health care to millions--MILLIONS--of its citizens. The ACA is not perfect, but our representatives need to come together to improve it, to increase access to quality health care for Americans--not to restrict that access by putting the interests of businesses and high-powered individuals over the needs of our country's citizens.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Grace Troxel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Before the ACA, people with preexisting conditions like asthma such as myself struggled to find insurance that would cover our basic medical needs, and insurance companies would price us out of the market to manage risk pools. The ACA was life-changing for me, and made me feel like my health was no longer a very expensive ticking time bomb that would eventually lead to financial ruin. Graham-Cassidy would remove the protections that allow Americans with preexisting conditions to access the medicines that keep us alive. It is an abomination. Heath policy should aim to cover the greatest amount of people while managing costs, and Graham-Cassidy is a step in the wrong direction.

Thank you for your time.

-Grace Troxel

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Scheetz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please vote NO to this bill. As an asthmatic, I can't have my insurance taken away.

Elizabeth Scheetz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KJGav1 . [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy is AWFUL

To whom it may concern:

The Graham Cassidy healthcare bill is a cruel abomination that should never have seen the light of day!

This bill erodes protections for individuals with pre-existing conditions, guts Medicaid for vulnerable people, and makes coverage more expensive.

There should be NO vote on any healthcare reform bill until a full analysis by the Congressional Budget Office is completed and lawmakers have a chance to fully review & understand it.

Enough games with people's healthcare! If you can't come up with a serious improvement to the ACA, leave well enough alone!!

Kimberly Gavagan

[REDACTED]
Mendham, NJ 07945

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO ON Graham Cassidy -

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

As the parent of a child with Down Syndrome, I have no choice but to fight for his RIGHT TO LIFE. Despite many of your colleagues' false assurances to the contrary, Graham Cassidy leaves those with pre-existing conditions (like Down Syndrome) dangerously vulnerable.

Its draconian cuts to Medicaid will leave our most vulnerable citizens - most notably our parents, grandparents and disabled loved ones - without the lifeline they so desperately need to be able to live and work in their communities, where they belong.

The American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Hospital Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association have all implored you to vote NO on this bill.

All 50 State Directors of Medicaid, and myriad other groups including the JDRF, ALS Association, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Arthritis Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Family Voices, JDRF, Lutheran Services in America, March of Dimes, National Health Council, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Organization for Rare Diseases, Volunteers of America, and WomenHeart, among many, many others have issued statements imploring you to vote NO on this bill.

This isn't about politics. It's about people like my son.

Please, VOTE NO ON GRAHAM CASSIDY."

#KillTheBill

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lea Kiefer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill comment

I am a public health professional with extensive knowledge, training and practice in the field of healthcare policy. Let me say from a professional vantage that this bill will do nothing to bring down the cost of healthcare coverage and will expand considerably the number of vulnerable Americans who are without any kind of healthcare coverage whatsoever. This bill is bad policy. To an elected Republican, who has campaigned for years to repeal Obamacare, it is however good politics. The difference between politics and policy is clear to the public. As civil servants, it should be clear to you as well. You have an obligation to choose the policy that serve the best interest of the people, which right now continues to be Obamacare. Do not vote for this bill.

--
Lea Kiefer
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bruce Beckwith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am the Father of two medically fragile children. My son is 13 and has spent every one of those days fighting a horrible progressive disease to try and thrive. His medical bills are well into the millions over his lifetime. My daughter is three and fighting the same disease a her brother. Just this year she has been hospitalized multiple times and had two surgeries. With out the protection against lifetime maximums and pre-existing conditions my children will DIE. Please do not pass this cruel bill. Fight for my two precious children and so many more like them. They deserve better.



Bruce Beckwith

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for today's hearing

I urge all senators to listen to those who are intimately involved with the processes of patient care and insurance practices. Patients, medical associations representing medical professionals, even insurance companies have all spoken out against the Graham-Cassidy bill. The professionals in the medical community, who are on the front lines of patient care and dealing with insurance companies every day, are telling you NO they do not want this bill. I beg you to open your ears and your hearts and actually listen to the voices of the people you represent. The people are telling you NO they do not want this bill. Please vote NO. If you truly want to represent your constituencies in a beneficial and courageous manner, you will support a BIPARTISAN effort to improve healthcare.

Katie Morgan
Richmond, Virginia

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Kislak [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment - Graham/Cassidy

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,

Rebecca Kislak

--
Rebecca Kislak, Esq.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Providence, RI 02940
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: brittanyhosey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Our child will die if Medicaid is capped

Our son Mason was born in 2004 in central Alabama and given 2 years to live. His mutation caused a birth defect that resulted in a malformation of his cerebral cortex. He needs help in all aspects of life and has a feeding tube, tracheotomy, and wheelchair. His disability requires that he have a parent caregiver with him at all times.

My husband and I have made it our life's work to provide the best care possible for Mason. This means we work alternating days so Mason has a caregiver with him at all times. Without Medicaid, we could not provide the nightly feeds that cost \$300 a month, his sterile trachs which cost \$80 each and have to be replaced weekly, the sterile suction catheters that cost over \$500 monthly, the trach supplies and assorted medical equipment that run into the 1000s of dollars, or the 12 surgeries that have given us the ability to care for him at home.

We still have hope that Mason is not invisible to the people that can help or hurt him. He may not be able to speak for himself but he is American and needs the protection of his country. We hope for this just as hard as we hoped his grim prognosis could be remedied by love and hard work.

We hope, we hope, we hope.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy , an AT&T LTE smartphone

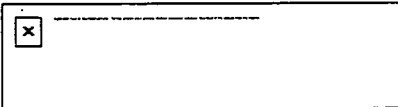
Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
<mccarthyrealtors@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SAVE ACA to save joe.

We are small business owners. Due to my husband's pre-existing medical condition, Diabetes, we would never have been able to get him insurance prior to ACA. Last week he underwent a life-saving surgery that cost us over \$8000 out of pocket, but could have bankrupted us if it wasn't for ACA. People don't need insurance when they are healthy, but as soon as they get sick, and we all will get sick at some point, we need it there to cover the costs of our medical bills, but even then they don't cover everything. Saving the ACA would show insurance companies that we're in charge of them, not vice versa.

Please save the ACA. Make it better. We're depending on it.

*Thanks,
Stacey McCarthy
Big Joe McCarthy*



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Feasterville, PA 19053

[REDACTED]

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Never trust wiring instructions sent via email. Cyber criminals are hacking email accounts and sending emails with fake wiring instructions. These emails are convincing and sophisticated. Always independently confirm wiring instructions in person or via a telephone call to a trusted and verified phone number. Never wire money without double-checking that the wiring instructions are correct.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beechler, Billy E [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

As a developmental-behavioral pediatrician practicing in Indiana, I urge the Senate to not pass this bill as its changes to Medicaid for children with developmental disabilities would be devastating and cause lifelong hardships. Please, work together to build a bipartisan plan that works well for everyone.

Thank you,

Bill Beechler, MD, FAAP
Indianapolis, IN

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shimmer Shade [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Our family
Attachments: image1.JPG; ATT00001.txt

My husband and I have been together for 17 years on Oct 14. We met when he was stationed in Bangor, WA on the USS Georgia. We now have 5 children that defy the odds everyday. This is because our 5 children all have genetic disabilities that we were not aware of until the 4th child was born. Even though I had a tubal ligation, our 5th came along 3 years ago.

We hit the genetic lottery, you see. We have 5 children who all carry spontaneous de novo chromosome anomalies which have created a myriad of conditions, likely that were created by proximity to nuclear material while on submarines according to our geneticists. 3 were also born 8 weeks premature, 1 endured a birth trauma during delivery that deprived him of oxygen for 3 and 1/2 minutes. He has cerebral palsy and had his first of hundreds of seizures in his lifetime at 5 minutes old. He was just put into a wheelchair due to problems with spasticity, his joints, possible rheumatoid arthritis, and other complications 4 months ago at age 13. Our oldest survived viral meningitis at 2 weeks old, only to be diagnosed with autism at 4. When he was 8, a School yard bully slammed his head into the concrete on the basketball court and left him with a skull fracture and traumatic brain injury. My 14 year old son has not socially or emotionally developed since. Our 3 daughters are 11, 7, and 3. My 11 year old has a heart condition, autism, and is legally blind. My 7 year old has Cri du chat syndrome, dystonia, and so many more diagnoses that it's hard to reconcile when you see her in person. She's a force of nature in a tiny body that can't keep up with her personality. She is wheelchair bound due to muscle spasms and cramps from the dystonia. The 3 year old is a font of sunshine and bubbling energy who, without a birth trauma like her brother, suffers from multiple seizures weekly which cause debilitating migraines. She is also displaying symptoms of autism. I am also a 3rd generation diabetic, at 5'6 and 157lbs. I was raised a vegetarian and have always taken care of myself. I was diagnosed when I was 25 and take 7 injections of insulin a day.

This is a very brief explanation of our full medical profiles, and tells you little about who we really are. We have a motto in this family "The diagnosis does not define us." Thalen, at age 14, is a robotics, math, and science genius who wants to design nanotechnology that can be put into the brain to make prosthetic limbs work. Braeden, at age 13, is a great wheelchair basketball player and wants to get involved with Special Olympics. He wants to be a veterinarian. Clara, at age 11, plans on a career in politics, and already presented her first resolution at the CD 6 convention here in Virginia earlier this year. Kaia, at age 7, wants to become a doctor and help children with genetic disorders. And Cordelia, at age 3, loves to sing and is already trying to learn the piano.

They cannot do any of these things without your help. Their medications, doctors, specialists, therapies, instructional aides, and Personal Care Attendants are all Medicaid funded. They receive waiver services that make it possible for my husband, their father, to work as an Tech B industrial painter for a company that builds fire trucks. It makes it possible for me to work as a paralegal, and volunteer as an educational advocate and the Vice President of the International Costuming Guild, and go to school to get my juris doctorate so that I can become an attorney. We have worked hard to give our children the life that many thought impossible, and have needed the help of Medicaid along the way. We will never have an income that can support the increases in healthcare expenses under this bill, and 3 of our children, and I, would die much sooner without Medicaid. Without insulin, I wouldn't be here to help care for them.

This bill cannot pass. We aren't the only family like this. There are thousands of children just in our corner of Virginia alone that rely on Medicaid. Please be the government of the people and listen to us. Don't pass this bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Bussell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy statement

It is completely and totally irresponsible for the Senate to try and ram rod through a bill that will revamp 1/6 of the American economy without a score from the CBO.

It is completely and totally immoral to take hundreds of billions of dollars from Medicaid which provides care for our most vulnerable citizens.

This bill is an abomination, and so is every senator who votes for it.

Sincerely,

Mark Bussell

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Good morning,

I am a teacher for a large school division, one would say I have good healthcare. I am also a 2x cancer survivor who can not afford the MRI needed to monitor the remaining breast tissue, so if it returns they catch it early enough to save my life.

My biggest issue/ concern is what health care cost me for my husband and I. I have approximately \$275.00 a paycheck for 10 months.. that's \$5500 a year. Up and above this my husband and I pay on average \$35,000 a year on deductibles for medication, doctor appointments, dental and health monitoring. My medical costs with insurance total \$45,500 a year, I am a teacher! That leaves approximately \$30,000 a year, then take taxes out of that... I am sinking in medical debt with what is suppose to be good healthcare... it was not like that before Obamacare!!!

I am in the group no one is talking about... I can not afford the MRI needed to monitor my cancer... the deductible is \$1000. I don't have it,

Please do something to improve healthcare ... don't mind paying my share...

Tracie Mauch

special education teacher- paying out more in healthcare then I should

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill, VOTE NO

PLEASE VOTE NO ON HEALTHCARE BILL!!!! Save a lives instead and stop the greed.
Thank you
Pamela Hanrahan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Willard [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 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.

As a practicing RN and a member of both the American Nurses Association and the Illinois Nurses Association, I am both ethically and morally against any bill that harms the patients that I act as a steward and advocate for.

I'm also against the unconstitutional unequal allocation of rules and resources that you've appropriated to get states like Alaska and Maine on board. I'm confident that with these illegal concessions your bill will be ruled unconstitutional, however I'm concerned about the terrible things that will happen to individuals and families, as well as to our economy and overall public health, in the interim.

Please consider what the description of your job entails, and if you really are doing the best work to serve the needs of your citizens and not the limited corporate interests and "campaign promises" that no one cares about but yourselves and a few far-right outliers. Your job is to improve the country, not get reelected, and I hope you consider the true impact of what you're about to do.

Carrie Willard
Clarendon Hills, IL

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: andrea lepcio [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

This bill seems far worse than the earlier bad versions. I am nearing 60 and am a freelance playwright. The ACA delivered me affordable quality health insurance for the first time in my life. Improve the ACA, do not decimate it and replace it with legislation that will cause millions to lose coverage. Disease, death, and suffering will result. Please do that right thing.

Andrea Lepcio
Bar Harbor, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Heitner [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Stephanie Demmons
Subject: "Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017" and your name and address.

My testimony on this legislation:

My father in law, Emanuel Heitner, aged 93-97, used Medicaid to pay for his fees at Palm Gardens Nursing Home in Brooklyn NY for three or four years. He worked until he was 87. He then had exhausted his own savings caring for his wife who needed round the clock nursing until she died and for his first years at the nursing home. Then, with our help, he applied for Medicaid coverage of his bills at the nursing home.

What a relief for us that this coverage was available!

Medicaid is essential coverage that Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal eliminates. Do not pass this bill!

Respectfully, Susan Heitner

Susan Heitner
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY, 11201-2216

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tyna.adams [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 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.

[Your name]
[City, State]

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Peck [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 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. If I had not had access to affordable health care in the last decade as a doctoral student I would not have had yearly checks for preventable but deadly cancers, and as a result I might now be dead or bankrupting my family with the costs of cancer treatment. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Jessica Peck

New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Paradise [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass Graham Cassidy

Hi,

I am writing to you today to oppose Graham Cassidy. This bill will hurt people with pre-existing conditions. It will hurt children and others that rely on Medicaid. Pushing this bill through without a CBO score is reckless and there is no doubt tens of millions will lose their insurance. Please do not pass this bill.

Thank you,

Liz Paradise
Mt. Laurel, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sherry Greenawalt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Graham

Since this bill guts Medicaid (out safety net), what will happen to the all the people who need Skilled Nursing Care in care facilities who have already sold their homes to pay for their care and are now using Medicaid to supplement their continued care?

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Saylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Wright, Kevin (Finance); Dent, William (Isakson)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comments-Pre-Existing Conditions

I am a 56 year old woman with pre-existing conditions. I had breast cancer 13 years ago and I currently have diabetes and high blood pressure. My husband works for a very small business that changes insurance companies every year or two due to increasing high cost. I am very concerned about how the Graham-Cassidy bill could affect me and other like me. From everything I had read it appears that people with pre-existing conditions could be negatively effected by this bill as it currently is and that insurance companies could charge people like me such a high premium that we would not be able to afford insurance. Please ensure that pre-existing conditions are not negatively effected by this bill.

Thank you!

Cindy Saylor

[REDACTED]
Flowery Branch, GA 30542
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Kennedy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As the mother of three young adults, each of whom has special health needs and would be uninsured but for the ACA, I ask for your opposition to Graham-Cassidy.

This bill does nothing whatsoever to better the situation of Americans in need of health care, but it does a whole lot to make their situations worse.

The removal of the guarantee of coverage regardless of pre existing conditions, the return of coverage caps, the repeal of the guarantees of coverage for mental health, reproductive health and more represents a giant leap backwards and into the dark ages.

Nations all over the globe are able to provide care for their citizens. America deserves nothing less.

Please kill the bill.

Very truly yours,

Mary Kennedy
Hendersonville TN

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Robinson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I will make my comments brief and to the point. Anyone who is paying attention knows the Graham-Cassidy bill is not about health care. It's about the GOP effort to cut taxes for the wealthy, and about "keeping a promise" made to voters and DONORS.

However, most people — including GOP voters — do not want the ACA to be repealed. The 2018 elections are just around the corner. Are you sure you can buy enough votes with Koch money?

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Please vote NO and do not repeal ACA. Work in bipartisan action to repair ACA.
MJ Bond

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Molly Hale <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Support for Graham-Cassidy Plan

Kidding, how on earth would someone support this plan. You are using misleading numbers to obscure massive funding cuts in the Graham-Cassidy plan and these new estimates don't account for major federal funding cuts resulting from transforming Medicaid from an open-ended entitlement into a budgeted program. The last minute effort to buy out the key states with skeptical GOP Senators is pathetic and weak; stop thinking with your wallets and think about fellow Americans. This bill will still leave over 20 million people without healthcare and cut the federal health budget \$215 billion by 2026. When the American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association all urge senators to reject your bill, doesn't that say something? Be the leaders your constituents voted for.

It's time to scrap this death trap of a bill and start an honest process, with hearings in both bodies and with input from all stakeholders: patients, doctors, insurance providers, economists and make a rational choice that covers everyone. Other industrialized capitalist countries have figured out how to deliver more care at half the cost in the US. There is no excuse to not even try, but this bill is deliberately cruel to the most vulnerable with pre-existing conditions or disabilities and women - say good bye to prenatal and maternity care. Meet the new GOP: Life begins at conception, ends there too... This is life or death for many Americans. Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,
Mary Heim

Mary Heim

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Heim [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony against the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Importance: High

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing Comments

Senate Finance Committee

September 25, 2017

Submitted by: Mary Heim
[REDACTED]

Seattle, WA 98103

As an American taxpayer I would like register my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal in favor of an honest bipartisan process to address healthcare needs of everyone in our nation. Opposition to this bill is practically universal: Every single major medical organization opposes this bill. The list includes the AMA, AARP, ALS, American Cancer Society and many, many others. Most Republican Governors oppose this bill. Under the provisions previously disclosed Governors decide if a standard level of service, including people with pre-existing conditions and pregnancy/pre-natal care, are covered under this plan. There will be inadequate funds given to states under this bill to cover children, the elderly and disabled under Medicaid and in 2027 Medicaid expansion funds are removed completely. There are NO GUARANTEED protections for pre-existing conditions under this bill. Surcharges for pre-existing conditions under this bill will most likely be exorbitant. Coverage for women, children, disabled, elderly in nursing homes, and mentally ill are gutted under the bill.

Medicaid directors from ALL FIFTY STATES have announced their opposition to the bill. They see what is behind this and so do we: the GOP needs the money for big tax cuts for corporations and large political donors. The governors and Medicaid directors recognize this as foisting the responsibility onto them for a system designed to fail when you remove ALL Medicaid funding in 2027. They rightly fear the inevitable backlash when this explodes and they don't want to get left holding the bag. After years of claiming that your party had a better plan than the ACA - just vote us in and you'll see - it is cynical, reprehensible, cowardly and lazy that the GOP will not even attempt to honestly face the challenge to provide adequate healthcare for everyone head on.

You were elected to work for your constituents and the American people, not the Koch brothers and big political donors, regardless of how much money they promise in exchange to run the GOP's next campaign. Pay to play politics are not what our Founding Fathers intended and are not why you were elected.

As I was preparing to submit this testimony, it was announced in the media that a new version of the bill that had been circulated among GOP senators. Cynically, it looks to be an attempt to "buy" the votes of key senators in Alaska, Arizona, Maine and Kentucky by shifting more funds to them in the short term. However, with new provisions added at the "59th minute of the 11th hour", it will be impossible for the Congressional Budget Office to adequately assess and score this legislation. It will make it difficult for the American people to have an opportunity to objectively assess the damage it will likely cause to our families and object on the policy. But this is not about crafting healthcare policy, the only object is to REPEAL OBAMACARE, who cares how many people it bankrupts and kills?

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeana Taylor (Blackman) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

To the Finance Committee,

As a resident of Nevada, I'm very concerned about the impact of the Graham/Cassidy/Heller bill on Nevada. The experts are quite clear on how much it would cut, at the very least, and I am not anxious to go backward in the fight for a healthier society. But I believe our Republican Governor, Brian Sandoval, said it best in his statements against the bill - it is a false choice if we have to choose between helping sick kids, the elderly or the poorest among us. The ACA, despite its flaws, have clearly made life better for more people. Let's return to being grown-ups and work in a bipartisan way to achieve a workable solution for all Americans. Not only do healthier Americans make a more profitable country, pitting healthcare resources against other financial needs is a sure way to make everything worse.

I am urging a return to common sense. Keep this bill from seeing the light of day.

Sincerely,

Jeana Taylor
Las Vegas, NV

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Blanshan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committe

I urge you to vote no on Graham-Cassidy-Heller.

This bill would cause 32 million people to lose health care coverage, destroying Medicaid and harming our most vulnerable citizens, seniors, and the disabled.

Please work in a bipartisan manner, with the Senate Help Committe, and consider their bill.

Mary Blanshan
Polk City, Iowa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Verna Vidana <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

This latest version of a healthcare bill by Republicans is a tiring example placed upon the American citizens as another example of how Republicans aren't capable of governing for the good of the people they so represent. But, another example by Republicans to govern for those giving millions of dollars to their campaigns to vote/support legislation that only benefits their donor's OWN interests.

There have been no public hearings as to the effects this latest bill against healthcare will hurt people, no scoring on how many millions of people will lose their healthcare, and no listening by the many healthcare experts-administrators-providers as to how bad this bill is for Americans. The insensitivity to listen to the constituency is at least irresponsible and at most providing death warrants to the many!

Respectfully,
Verna Vidana

But my concerns are not just about my family. I am alarmed that Kaiser Health News says the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal is the most disruptive of all the measures proposed by the GOP Congress so far (see <http://khn.org/news/gop-health-bills-changes-go-far-beyond-preexisting-conditions/>). It is also opposed by almost every major medical and health advocacy group, 50 state Medicaid directors, and leading governors. I am alarmed at the last minute changes that have in an effort to buy support from hold-out Republican Senators. I am concerned about the dismantling of Medicaid which covers 49% of all births, 60% of kids with disabilities, and 64% of nursing home residents. I am terrified that the new language confirms clear intent to make block grant temporary, eliminating it entirely in 2027 as Medicaid cap cuts deepen.

I urge you to vote "No" on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal and any measure that will raise insurance premiums and healthcare costs on Alabama/American families while cutting millions of people off of their health insurance, hurting work-place insurance systems and our national healthcare economy.

In closing, I urge you to protect Americans, our 10 essential health benefits, protections for pre-existing conditions and against life-time caps. I urge you to commit to long-term and level funding of Medicare, CHIP, community health, and Medicaid.

Please listen to Sen. John McCain and protect our democracy with "regular order" in Congress (i.e. bipartisan support, more than one public hearing, a process for amendments, and thorough "scoring" from the Congressional Budget Office).


I urge you to resume bipartisan discussions on real "repair" measures to the ACA to reduce premiums for individuals and small businesses and fund our existing national health care system by Sept. 30. These include efforts undertaken by Sen. Lamar Alexander and Sen. Patty Murray in the Senate Health Committee as well as those by Sen. Susan Collins and Sen. Ben Nelson.

Finally, I urge you to stop scaring us all by threatening to cut off our healthcare. In Alabama, we are worried sick about this threat, which keeps coming, over and over again. Congress has accomplished nothing this year to improve our health, our healthcare system, and our lives in this respect. So far, it has only made an urgent problem worse.

Respectfully, we deserve better.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Gray


Irondale, AL 35210

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenn Gray [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Gray

Jennifer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ale, AL 35210

Iron

Re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

To whom it may concern.

The proposed changes to the ACA through the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal would have devastating effects my family.

My daughter is High Functioning - Autism Spectrum Disorder (HF-ASD). We have paid an exorbitant amount of money over her nine years for her treatment to allow her to function in the "neurotypical" world. There is no end in sight for this. However, there is no choice. There is no choice for those of us that want to see their child reach their full potential. She is extremely intelligent but needs lots of therapy to allow her brain to function in a way to access that intelligence.

This GOP-only proposal would erase numerous consumer protections for me and other people I know, such as protections for pre-existing conditions and against life-time caps. If that were to happen, my family would no longer be able to afford my health insurance plan. Graham-Cassidy will apply a surcharge to us for her pre-existing condition and bring back life-time caps that we will likely meet well before she leaves our insurance. Her potential is very truly only limited by the therapy she receives and that is directly related to our ability to afford that therapy.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Divya Chhabra [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy will kill people

This bill will DIRECTLY result in people dying and it's truly disgusting what the GOP is trying to do to Americans. They GOP and Democrats should work together to decrease healthcare costs and increase coverage. Graham-Cassidy increases costs and decreases coverage. With this bill, GOP senators are saying that they're okay with killing Americans just to save face and stroke their own egos. It's disgusting and shameful and we won't forget. We're going to turn Congress blue in 2018.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Mickens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 'NO' on Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson

Dear Senators,

I urge you to vote 'no' on the Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson bill. This rushed bill would throw the entire health care industry into chaos -- not to mention millions of Americans' lives. Devolving health care to the states is NOT efficient, it's reinventing the wheel. Please return to bipartisan negotiations and cease this reckless and imprudent crusade.

Sincerely yours in patriotism,

Julie Mickens

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Gibson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

During my career in nursing, I concluded that no one is either more or less deserving of healthcare than anyone else. All of humanity is worthy.

It is atrocious that the U.S. has the least generous access to healthcare of any developed nation. There is no reason for that other than our greedy, selfish, corrupt Congress.

My dear brother's life depends on Medicaid. My dear friend's livelihood depends on her autistic brother having the in-home care that Medicaid provides. My own life-sustaining medications are valued at \$4000/month, which I cannot pay. If the ACA is repealed, I am quite certain that at least half the country will be thrown into limbo due to pre-existing conditions.

Congress has terrorized the nation over this issue long enough. Stop the madness immediately!

Susan Gibson

Missouri voter

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Morrison [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill
Attachments: MD_TimmyMorrison.pdf; Binder1.jpg; Binder2.jpg

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the Cassidy-Graham bill. Not only because it is being forced through the Senate with no support from healthcare experts, the medical community, and insurance companies (and no CBO score) but also because of the substance of its policies.

I am a father. My son, Timmy, turns 7 in a week. He was born a week after the ACA was implemented with Opitz GBBB syndrome, a genetic condition that effects the midline structures of his body. Today he breathes through a trach in his neck and is fed through a g-tube in his stomach. Please keep our story in mind as you consider altering our nation's healthcare system:

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/2/15/14563182/obamacare-lifetime-limits-ban>

A healthcare system that does not include the following policies in their entirety will be met with the full opposition of the community of parents with medically complex children across America:

1. Real protections for those with pre-existing conditions so that people are not discriminated against if they suddenly have to use the insurance they've been paying into.
2. Essential Health Benefits preservation.
3. The ban against lifetime limits
4. A robust and expanded Medicaid program in EVERY state.
5. The ability to keep children on their parents' insurance till the age of 26.

In the past several months, I have helped start a new organization called the Little Lobbyists (www.littlelobbyists.org). It is made up of 20 local families from DC, MD, VA, WV, and PA who also have children with complex medical needs. We have committed to advocate for the healthcare needs of our children on Capitol Hill. We have asked for parents of children with complex medical needs from across the country to share their stories with us. Stories of hope and triumph in the face of unimaginable tragedy. Stories of fear of what the GOP has tried time and time again to do to our healthcare system in the past several months. We have received over 260 stories from 48 states from these dedicated parents, parents who don't have the time to advocate for the needs of their children because they are spending their days trying to keep them alive. I and other parents in the Little Lobbyists organization have been taking these stories to you and your senatorial colleagues. They are stories from your constituents. Stories you need to hear.

I have primarily been responsible for formatting these stories. The running theme behind all of them is this: health care is a matter of life and death to these kids. Weakening protections under the ACA will have devastating consequences for these families as well as mine.

Please hear us. Find a bipartisan fix to the ACA. Stop threatening to dismantle the life we have worked so hard to foster in our son. Please build a system that not only protects his present but his future as well. Our lives are in your hands.

I'm attaching my son's profile as well as pictures of the binder full of stories from across the country that we've worked so hard to compile, format, and deliver to all 96 Senators they represent.

Sincerely,
Mark Morrison

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy M <[REDACTED]@gchcomments>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:49 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.

Cindy Moore
San Diego, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacy Stanford <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:50 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. The priority should be reauthorizing CHIP funding, and stabilizing the individual market, not sabotaging the progress made under the Affordable Care Act.

Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Stacy Stanford
SLC, Utah

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:52 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.

Joanna Patterson
Baltimore MD

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michaela Hammer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare and many of my loved ones would be without quality health care without the Affordable Care Act. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Michaela Hammer
Eugene, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terri Witherspoon [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:52 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.

Theresa Witherspoon
San Francisco

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Babcock [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for the Record on Graham Cassidy Hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I respectfully ask that the following comments be submitted as part of the record on Senate Finance Committee hearing on the Graham Cassidy Health Care Repeal Bill.

By the grace of God, I have no story to tell of immediate, tragic consequences to my family, were this heartless bill to pass. We are all strong, healthy, and employed with employer provided insurance or retired with employer subsidized Medicare. But all this could change in a heartbeat, with the loss of a job, a disabling accident, a diagnosis of chronic illness.

There are some things we know about the Graham Cassidy bill and it is all bad. For example, it would destroy Medicaid as we know it by making it a capped system. This bill still undermines treatment for those with pre existing conditions.

There is a good deal more we don't know -- the total costs, how many people would lose their health coverage. And we don't these things because once again, the Republican controlled Senate is attempting to push legislation through with no time for analysis.

This has to stop. Legislators need to follow regular order, working through bipartisan committees to improve health care in this country, not destroy it.

Respectfully,

Susan Babcock
Monticello, Iowa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Bowles [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jane Bowles
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sarasota, Florida 34238

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: B C Angel [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Let the GOP members know that having millions of Americans lose their health insurance, but giving wealthy corporations a huge tax break is downright evil. Let the world know that they are really up to.

B C Angel
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Titusville, Florida 32780

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Hirshorn [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. How does stripping healthcare away from Millions of Americans make America Great ?

Robert Hirshorn

[REDACTED]
katsaras@usaznet.net

[REDACTED]

Groveland , Florida 34736

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Kenneth Armstrong
[REDACTED]

5354 champagne
Orlando, Florida 32808

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frank Bodine <[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.

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Frank Bodine
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thonotosassa, Florida 33592

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Yvonne Tso [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concerned about coverage for pre-existing and also for implications for low-income

Dear Senators - Regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill, I have grave concerns for the coverage of people with pre-existing conditions. It is not clear to me that people with pre-existing conditions will be guaranteed coverage at an affordable level, even with the words that address that issue in the current bill. What is the sense of healthcare insurance if you can't get treatment for what you are sick with?

I am also concerned that low-income and older people will not be able to get affordable health care, with the elimination of subscriber subsidies, change to block grants, and the fact that insurers will be able to charge so much more for elderly people.

I am almost 65 and have been counting the days till I can get onto Medicare. Why can't Medicare be extended to all age groups? We need to take care of our (human) resources. If we could guarantee quality affordable healthcare to everyone, we would have less problems as a society over all. This needs to be a top priority - the healthcare of our people. Why do our people need to wait till age 65 to breathe a sigh of relief that their healthcare is finally not such a huge worry/issue???

Thank you for your consideration,
--Yvonne Lee Tso

[REDACTED]
Vero Beach, FL 32967
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilyn Eisenberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The medical device company in our town was the largest donor to our Republican congressman's campaign in our whole county. No wonder why. They pride themselves on compassion to their customers. Well, now they are about to lose all their customers if this very flawed bill goes forward. I cannot imagine how this company's support for this candidate constitutes compassion in any sense of the word, and we will continue to publicize the folly of their political choices unless they stand up against their very compromised candidate who stands firmly with this bill.

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-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 Eisenberg
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Gainesville , Florida 32653

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: S Becker [mailto:becker@actionnetwork.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.

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S Becker
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

LAKE WALES, Florida 33898

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ron Sluser [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Ron Sluser

[redacted]
[redacted]

Miami Beach Fla, Florida 33140

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Knepper [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Nancy Knepper

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Winter Garden, Florida 34787

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alvera Pritchard [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Alvera Pritchard

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

miami beach, Florida 33139

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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joe galdo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

ormond beach, Florida 32176

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Clark <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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It's time to think of Americans, not donors. Shame on the constructors of this bill!!!!

Helen Clark

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Oldsmar, Florida 34677

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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Karaly Clubb
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Seminole, Florida 33772

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Dobbs [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Healthcare is a national issue. Everyone in the United States faces similar health issues. Health is not related to a specific state or local – it's universal. Treat it like it is. I believe in local governance when local issues are different than other parts of the USA. However, healthcare does not fit this mold.

We are a mobile society. Do not make healthcare more of a state defined issue by allowing each state to set a different set of standards for healthcare. Make healthcare something that can be transferred across state lines so that it better serves every American.

Thank you,
Lorchelle C Dobbs
[REDACTED]
Gainesville, FL 32605
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Osborne Lamoree [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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Osborne Lamoree
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sán José, Florida 33312

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Millions of hard working, taxpaying Americans rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

The rest of the civilized world understands that health care is a right, not a privilege. Uruguay understands this. Sweden understands this. Canada really understands this. Why don't we understand this?

I urge the establishment of a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Wendy Griswold
[REDACTED]

Jupiter FL 33458
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsey Kaetzel [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In regards to the hearing on the Graham-Cassidy Bill to Repeal the ACA

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to ask that you join the many Democrats and Republicans, and the vast majority of Americans, who would like to keep the Affordable Care Act and reject the heartless policies put forth in the Graham-Cassidy Bill. The idea of deregulating the very basic moral parts of the ACA and allowing states to choose whether to opt into or out of covering those who need coverage (the underprivileged, the elderly, those with preexisting conditions, those who would be very negatively benefited by lifetime caps on coverage) is ridiculous, unfair, and immoral. There are still many problems with our healthcare system, but repealing the ACA will only increase them tenfold. There are plenty of areas where we can work on solutions (smarter ways of covering people, bringing down the cost of prescription drugs), and as you well know there are several bipartisan efforts to do so in the Senate. Please redirect your energy into improving the ACA rather than repealing it or replacing it with a plan that will take coverage away from millions and create more expensive and lesser quality coverage for those of us who would be fortunate enough even to still have coverage.

The issue of healthcare is incredibly important to me, not because I would lose health coverage or be negatively affected (besides soaring prices of course from an unstable insurance market), but because I have seen the stress and heartache that having a pre-existing condition, a lifetime cap, or not being able to get health coverage at all can cause first hand, as all of these things have affected many of my family members and close friends. In fact, I can't think of a single family that I know of who the repeal of this law would not touch. And if you think people will forget who introduced this law or voted for them to lose their health coverage, have more expensive coverage, and/or lesser quality coverage, you are sorely mistaken. People's lives are literally on the line. Please do the right thing and rescind this terrible bill.

Americans do not want complicated health spending accounts or tax credits that amount to nothing at the end of the day. We don't want block grants that our states can do whatever they wish with. We want good, affordable healthcare coverage that we can count on and we are willing to continue to pay a tax in order to receive that care. We Americans are happy to provide quality, affordable healthcare coverage to you, your colleagues, and every member of the government, including the President. Please kindly return the favor. I would like to see a serious and thoughtful bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, and I hope that this ridiculous talk of repeal will soon be a thing of the past.

Sincerely,

Lindsey and Richard Kaetzel

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Sobota [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT pass the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Repeal Bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Lisa Sobota, and I am writing to you from Sarasota, FL 34235. I rely on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Repeal Bill. I live in the state of Florida, and our Republican Governor Rick Scott is on record not supporting this bill. If the Cassidy-Graham bill is passed, 3,217,000 people are estimated to lose insurance in Florida alone, which is approximately 15.61% of the state's total estimated population. Graham and Cassidy claim the bill gives states local control of healthcare spending by converting much of ACA funding into a block grant to states. States could spend this money to provide insurance, fund high-risk pools, or otherwise cover medically complex care costs. While the ACA sets aside funding specifically for low-income consumers' healthcare costs, the Cassidy-Graham bill does not earmark any money specifically for this vulnerable group. In fact, the bill would fund the block grant by eliminating the ACA's tax credits and cost-sharing subsidies for middle- and low-income marketplace consumers and ending Medicaid expansion in 2020. The plan would reduce federal funding for expanded healthcare coverage by \$26 billion immediately and by \$83 billion by 2026. The plan would also end the individual insurance mandate while requiring insurers to cover everyone, a combination of policies that has historically resulted in astronomically high premiums. The majority of Americans want to see the ACA strengthened, not repealed. We see and understand what it is in our own best interests, and we will not stop fighting to make sure our elected officials work towards these interests and not against them. Do everything in your power to kill this bill in committee as make sure it never sees the light of day on the Senate floor. Thank you.

- Lisa Sobota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claudette M. Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My HealthCare Story

Dear Senators:

As you debate the impact your vote will have on the healthcare of millions of Americans, I want you to consider my story.

I have been an insurance agent in the state of Florida for almost 11 years. Prior to the implementation of the ACA, I struggled to help consumers with pre-existing conditions obtain health insurance and at affordable rates. Consumers with diabetes had only two reputable insurers that would even consider offering them coverage and these two companies could, and often did, increase these consumers' premiums by as much as 150%. Consumers who had been diagnosed with and treated for internal cancer would not even be considered for health insurance until ten (10) years from the date of their last treatment. Those with breast cancer diagnoses could be considered after two (2) years from the date of last treatment. However, insurers would consider annual screenings, such as mammograms and ultrasounds, as treatment, so most breast cancer survivors could never qualify for coverage. Consumers who were overweight, who had multiple chronic conditions or were prescribed multiple medications would also be denied coverage or, if approved for coverage, would have to pay higher costs.

The ACA changed all of that.

For many years after I lost my employment and health insurance with the State of Florida, I did not have health coverage, primarily because I could not afford the high premium. I had one chronic condition for which I was prescribed multiple medications. In 2012/2013, I was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. It is likely I would have been diagnosed sooner, had I been receiving regular health care.

In 2016, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. My treatment so far has included a Lumpectomy (at a cost of \$41,000), six (6) chemotherapy treatment (at almost \$60,000 per treatment), twenty radiation treatment (costing \$1,360 per treatment) and I continue to receive a dose of Herceptin once every three weeks, at a cost of over \$19,000 per dose. I could not have afforded these costs without the coverage I receive through the ACA and the assistance I receive with my monthly premium and cost-sharing reductions.

I now have two pre-existing conditions - diabetes and cancer. If the protections offered by the ACA were rolled back, I would be one of millions of Americans who would not be able to obtain or afford health insurance.

I implore Senator Rubio and all of the other Republican senators not to vote on the Graham-Cassidy bill. It's impact would be catastrophic for millions of your fellow Americans.

I would like to thank all of the Democratic senators, Senator John McCain and all of the Republican Senators who have had the courage to vote against similar bills in the past and who will have the courage to vote against this one.

Thank you and God Bless you.

Sincerely,

Claudette M. Williams
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PS. Need help with Medicare, ObamaCare or insurance for your small business? Call me today!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SUE Haberkorn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Health Care

Many in family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Some are on Medicaid, several have pre-existing conditions or disabilities. They have no other affordable options.

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

Sincerely,
Susan Haberkorn
Fort Myers FL

Sent on a Sprint Samsung Galaxy Note® II

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Pak [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Repeal ACA

To Whom It May Concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a self employed professional so I don't have an employer to aid in healthcare premiums. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Pak

Miami, FL

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shirley Gonzalez-Day [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony For Monday's Graham Cassidy Hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, we oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. Members of my family have multiple, pre-existing conditions and they are on fixed incomes and will be unable to afford the greatly increased costs of coverage for those conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Janet W. Bartlett
Shirley Gonzalez-Day
Ocala, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

My testimony for the Graham-Cassidy hearing:

I rely on quality affordable healthcare.

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

I am a breast cancer survivor who would not be able to afford medical insurance with my pre-existing condition.

For all I know, without any time to understand all the details of this rush-to-vote bill, I might not even be able to get any medical insurance at all.

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

Sincerely,

Jill Carel

Ocala, Florida 34481

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DSwallow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I just had surgery to remove my entire thyroid because it was cancerous. I will have to be on replacement hormone medication for the rest of my life, I will require follow up testing every six months until no evidence of cancer is found and then annually for the foreseeable future. My husband has had precancerous spots removed from his skin, he will require follow up screenings for the rest of his life. These weren't due to anything we did wrong, it can and does happen to anyone! Please, we beg of you, we would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, please!

Sincerely,
Delores Swallow

Holiday, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erika Dahl [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good Morning,

My one and a half year old daughter and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a single stay-at-home mom/full time undergraduate student who relies on the money I've saved prior to having a baby to pay all of my expenses as well as my college tuition. My daughter and I would not be able to afford healthcare without the assistance of Medicaid right now. We are both perfectly healthy but an accident with ensuing medical bills would ruin us. I work everyday to raise a happy, healthy, loved child and I work every night to graduate college so I can provide for my daughter. It is unconscionable to charge human beings obscene amounts for what is a basic human necessity or to deny them care based on pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Erika Dahl

Sarasota, Florida

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop this bill

I am a breast cancer survivor and do not want this bill to pass. We must do better than this for people with pre-existing conditions.

Lisa I Glassman, Esq.
Lisa I Glassman PA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Boca Raton, FL 33498

561-447-6676

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Gallivan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony against Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and loved ones rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have numerous pre-existing conditions as does my husband, and we rely on many medications. If the ACA were repealed, it would be impossible for us to obtain health insurance and afford our medications. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Erin Gallivan

Tallahassee, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JoAnn Kuhr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH

I don't understand the objection to Medicare for all (or ACA plus public option). Insurance companies won't lose business because they provide gap policies. Funding would be from eliminating the maximum on earnings subject to Medicare taxes. Medicare is successfully being administered by the federal government now. I don't think that most people would want that service to be turned over to state governments. Some states are more capable of administering programs than others. The federal government is more likely to provide fair and equal treatments to all participants.

JoAnn Kuhr
[REDACTED]
Fort McCoy, FL 32134
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cesar and Karen Vega [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid for my sons on the spectrum for autism.

Dear GCH Committee,

I have three sons on the spectrum for autism. They are on a program that is Medicaid based, Pedicare Title 19. Pedicare is health insurance (for special needs children) that covers specialized treatments such as applied behavioral analysis, speech, occupational, physical therapy orphan drugs, etc. that normally would not be covered by traditional insurance. The therapies and medications covered by Medicaid for my sons have been life altering. I can honestly say that my sons would not have made the progress they have or have the opportunities they have now if they didn't have Medicaid.

Taking services away from children on the spectrum for autism would be devastating and certainly life altering. Keeping Medicaid in place will actually save money in the long run because if you do not have comprehensive early intervention and other ongoing services for children with autism, you will have a burden to the tax system when this child reaches adulthood. As a parent of three children with autism, my goal and dream is for my children to be financially self-sufficient and not living off of SSI or any other government program. I was told that my now 12 and 13 year old sons would never leave the house and would likely never speak. Because of the therapies and specialized doctors that are covered by Medicaid in my state, my sons are verbal and have the opportunity to go on to higher education and are 100% verbal. Having this opportunity available to all children should be the goal of government. Taking Medicaid away will erase hope for so many families. The number of children being diagnosed with autism is growing every single day. I implore you to continue to search for the cause of autism and to continue to cover the needed therapies, prescription drugs and specialists that are required for the best outcome of children on the spectrum for autism and so many other conditions. Thank you.

Karen Vega
Mother of 3 sons on the autism spectrum ages 13, 12, 8
Ocala, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Wooddell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

This bill is just as bad, if not worse than the other bills they've tried putting through the senate. It really needs to be a bipartisan bill. They need to stop putting party above people (even their own constituents). We really need a single payer system.

Thank you
Linda Wooddell
Ocala, FL

CommonCents Ocala
Indivisible



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Perez <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Debbie Perez
[REDACTED]
Palm Coast, FL 32164
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT PASS THIS BILL

I am a 61 year old retiree and I buy my own private health insurance. I pay about \$1,000 a month. I don't qualify for any government subsidy because I worked for 35 years and have a decent pension. I have always done everything right, obeyed the law, paid my taxes, never took one dime from the government.

I live in Florida, and our governor and legislature are Republican and very vocal against Obamacare. They would surely vote for the opt out from the consumer protection provisions, so the insurance companies here would be able to drop policies on people who are older and/or have pre-existing conditions, like me.

I could be left without insurance and one illness away from bankruptcy.

Please reject this bad bill.

Thanks

Mark Vasani
Orlando, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

This bill is a disaster for the American people.
It will increase the number of uninsured, raise costs for those that are insured.
It will remove protections for those with pre-existing conditions and make insurance totally unaffordable for them.
In frank words, IT WILL KILL PEOPLE.

This bill MUST fail. It CANNOT become law. Our very LIVES depend on it.

Janet Eduardo
St Petersburg FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Gillette [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

My daughter relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Because she is 29 and works fewer than 40 hours at any one of her jobs, she does not qualify for employer provided health insurance. There are thousands, if not millions of Americans like her who rely on the coverage provided under the affordable care act. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Sharon Gillette

Melbourne, Florida

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dana Humphrey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Cassidy-Graham

Dear Congress,

All people in this county need quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill will not provide that at all. It strips so many of the protections they have under the ACA and will end up costing them and us all so much more.

I currently have insurance through my husband's employer. But I would not qualify with my medical conditions and would have to pay more because of this under any other plan that the GOP has offered up.

I am very angry that the GOP continues to try to take healthcare away from millions. This is disgusting and terrible. Please stop!!

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

Sincerely, Dana Humphrey (Edgewater, Florida)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I am AGAINST this bill

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I just had a baby and needed to be taken care of in the way that the ACA has set the guidelines and rules to protect me and my baby girl.

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

Sincerely, Danielle Fay

Miami, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jason Green [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:42 PM
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,
Jason Green

Saint Petersburg, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Committee:

I cannot support the bill proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy for many reasons. Following are just a few.

1. The healthcare and health insurance industries comprise a material part of the US economy. Any change could have significant impacts, including unanticipated consequences. Among these is the certainty that if health insurance becomes unaffordable for millions of Americans, we will return to a day when the uninsured used emergency rooms for care that might easily have been avoided or handled at a lower real cost. The consequence will be that hospitals will simply have to go bankrupt. If this happens, publicly run hospitals, if there are any, will have a financial burden they cannot sustain for long. Then comes the result that will affect all property owners--increases in real estate taxes to pay to try to maintain some kind of basic healthcare. This is an outcome that will have broad and highly damaging economic consequences.

2. Any change to a system that has now been in place for over 5 years should be arrived at only after public hearings in the appropriate committees in both the House and the Senate, and opportunities for individual Americans to have our voices heard on concrete proposals. In other words, an modification to the existing system must be arrived at through the regular order processes that once were routine in Washington.

3. I happen to be a white woman, privileged, healthy and older. I haven't often needed medical care in my long life. I was self-employed for many years (an attorney), and had to find my own health insurance. As a consequence of my concern about pre-existing condition limitations and the high cost of premiums, I simply avoided going to the doctor. I was lucky that I am educated and smart enough to know to eat well to maintain good health, and so I made it to Medicare without an catastrophes. I will say that while in the first few years of Medicare I really did not need any medical attention at all, the intense stress of this current political and governmental situation has sent me to the doctor and pharmacist far more than ever before in my life. The GOP politicians should really be ashamed to think what they are doing to the American people--including white, well-off, highly-educated, tax-paying people.

4. Now that the truth has come out that the Koch brothers and their fellow Republican funders have demanded "repeal" of the ACA in exchange for huge campaign contributions in 2018, and likely beyond, Republicans in Congress should stand up to those funders and accept that being ruled as puppets by "dark money" is no longer acceptable. There is little time left to work on a bipartisan bill to improve whatever is wrong with the ACA. It is fruitless to waste that precious time continuing to satisfy a small group of billionaires whose interests are entirely contrary to the interests of nearly every one of your constituents.

5. I have no objection to rationing healthcare services paid for with government funds. Whether it's telling a 94 year old man that he can't have a new hip and instead needs to use a wheelchair, or telling parents who choose knowingly to bring a baby with Down Syndrome into the world that they cannot put that child on Medicaid but must bear the costs of their personal decision themselves, there must be limits to what American taxpayers are asked to support. But returning to the days where a pre-existing condition would, in itself, make any insurance unaffordable, is uncivilized.

For these and many, many more reasons, I urge the Committee to refuse to report the bill to the floor of the Senate and kill this wrong-headed, ill-thought-out, mean effort now.

Sincerely,

Helen Starr
Palm Beach County, Florida



Virus-free. [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sam Black <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on ACA Repeal

Importance: High

My family and several close friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with [pre-existing conditions] is... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Sandra Black
Bonita Springs, FL

Sam Black

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bonita Springs, FL 34134

[REDACTED]

*Celebrating **25** Years Helping Companies Build Sales and Customer Service Excellence*

2015 American Business Women's Association Woman of the Year!

Bonita Springs Rotary Noon 2015 Rotarian of the Year

2017 ABWA Top 10!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Seltzer [mailto:lseltzer@bmc.com] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

My husband & I are residents of Florida. I am 60 yrs old and he is 62 years old. We have worked out entire lives and had very successful corporate careers. In the recession of 2008, we lost our jobs. Even though it was a blow, we picked ourselves up and moved forward..Both of us starting our own businesses as we realized that at our ages, we would not land a corporate position. The ACA allowed us to start our own businesses. It took the problem of being our age with preexisting conditions the ability to have wonderful healthcare at an affordable price. It was a game changer for us. Health care is a human right Lisa Seltzer

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Sweet [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: So called healthcare bill

With all due respect I am ashamed of our government. There are many people out there right now who are alive because of the Affordable Care Act. It is apparent to me that my government has no regard for our lives. All they are interested in is giving tax breaks to the rich. They are also concerned about losing the "donations" from the Koch family. Your only interest seems to be removing President Obama's name from everything.

You work for the American people. I will do my best to make sure that whomever votes for this so called healthcare bill loses their job. Because you certainly don't deserve it!

It is despicable that you continue to torture people day after day by hanging this over their head. It is quite obvious you care only about yourself and not your constituents. It is also despicable that you think this healthcare is good enough for us but not good enough for you.

Bravo to those who stand against you!

Karen J Sweet

[REDACTED]
Fort Myers Beach, Florida. 33931

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dianne Harper <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with [M pre-existing conditions and affordability is this: I am 60 years old and never had insurance until the affordable care act. I simply could not afford it and I never had a job that would provide it. At this point in my life I have a pre-existing condition that will make it impossible for me get insurance without the affordable care act. Even if, by some miracle, a company agrees to insure me I will most likely not be able to afford the premiums. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Dianne Harper
Gainesville, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Beal [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Work together to improve the ACA - not repeal it

I oppose the Graham/Cassidy Bill -

My husband, a career firefighter and medic has cancer and, while we can afford our insurance now - we rely on insurance that will cover this. It is a matter of life and death. It is a matter of our savings being eaten away by healthcare. We worked hard - did all the right things as we made our way through life. Don't let the system abandon us now. Work together to improve the ACA - not repeal it

Karen and Dwight Beal

Key Largo FL 33037

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gregory D Simpson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:46 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.

Gregory D Simpson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Windermere, Florida 34786

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Ann Remley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed Healthcare Bill

I am a 63 year old Republican voter who is wholeheartedly against the proposed GOP backed bill to repeal ACA and replace with this shameful bill. Do not rush it through without appropriate vetting and CBO analysis.

I oppose any action on the part of the Senate to defund ACA. Please just fix the current plan to address areas of concern. We are supposed to be the greatest nation in history, start acting like it and protect your most vulnerable citizens.

Linda Ann Remley
Longboat Key, FL

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the ACA!

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I was laid off from my last permanent job in June 2015. Since July 2015, Graeme and I have been able to afford insurance only because of the ACA. If the Graham-Cassidy bill passes, we will almost certainly be among the millions who can no longer afford insurance and therefore can no longer afford any kind of health care. We both have pre-existing conditions, both physical and mental, and Graeme is on several prescriptions. Losing the ACA will endanger both our lives.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Instead, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Melissa Garber
Orlando, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debby LaPlaca [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

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

Sincerely, Debrah L LaPlaca

Bradenton, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Snyder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: #GrahamCassidy

Please vote NO on the GrahamCassidy health care bill. I shouldn't have to tell you this and you probably know more reasons why it shouldn't be passed. I can't believe the GOP cares more about the Koch Brothers and giving them a tax break. Is there no one in Congress that actually cares about the people who elected them; that truly sought election for the right reasons?

I am on disability. When I first went on Social Security Disability, I had to wait for Medicare. THAT doesn't make sense. But once I got Medicare, I couldn't find a general practitioner who accepted it. It wasn't until ACA that I was able to get a primary care physician as well as specialists. In less than a year, I have had surgery, received physical rehabilitation, home aides, and now receiving radiation for cancer. Additionally, I am being treated for diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol, which are now under control. There are still times I have to make decisions when it comes to co-pays. What will happen if ACA is repealed? There was a time when doctors were afraid I would stroke out because my blood pressure; is that what I go back to?

How many times is Congress going to try to repeal and replace the ACA? How many times are you going to enrage the majority of the people? When are you going to listen to us? All doctors, hospitals, medical associations and now even insurance companies have come out against the GrahamCassidy Health Care Bill! Even the insurance companies!! It is long over due that you stop the nonsense and work on a bipartisan fix to ACA. Be the heroes and fix it so everyone has a chance at real healthcare.

Very Sincerely,
Pat Snyder
32796

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

JOHN GUSMANO
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Margate, Florida 33063

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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Sharon hadfield

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gilda.josephson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Please do not support the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. I am a recently retired psychotherapist. Since the ACA was put in place I had numerous clients who were able to finally get affordable insurance. Prior to the ACA these clients were not able to get insurance coverage due to pre existing conditions or working at companies that did not cover mental health. It was a life saver and a relief for many of these people.

I hope you can consider these folks when you vote.

Wouldn't it be better to work in an open bipartisan process to fix the ACA rather than repeal it?

I urge you to think about what it would be like if you had little resources, a chronic illness, a child with severe disabilities, or a relative with depression or other mental illnesses. You would likely be highly anxious and distressed that you had no protection to cover these conditions.

Just as you have car and homeowners insurance to protect your things, isn't it important to protect yourself and your family from illnesses as best you can?

Gilda Josephson, Ph.D.
Florida resident

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanna Dean [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy legislation and our Health Care System - MEDICAID

Importance: High

It is appalling that it would even be considered to do what Graham Cassidy are proposing.

- If it weren't for the Medicaid system: I would not have been able to go to college and take care of my daughter and my husband. My husband became very ill and so we were very poor. Without Medicaid we would have lived like a third world country. I'm now a business owner and my daughter is going to college healthy and whole. My husband succumbed to his illness but at least he was taken care of while he was alive. WE would have never been able to afford his medications.
- My mother in Illinois is disabled and has been for 37 years. With "Obamacare" as they call it, she can have the therapy that keeps her walking. Before she was slowing moving towards a wheelchair. Today she gets to go to medical rehabilitation for her back/legs/hips/spine recovery program. She can walk and is getting better. She has been able to improve her health and get off a lot of medications that were making her ill with so many side effects. This legislation would kill the medical coverage she could finally afford
- My daughter has insurance while in school and able to get the medical attention so many kids don't get to have until their mid-30's.
- My bi-polar brother and my diabetic uncle can afford their medications and get better medical care with "Obama Care". My brother can lead a productive life, but without Medicaid he will go back to being homeless.

It is helping all of them be better citizens for this country... isn't that what we want?

We are the most dynamic country and yet we keep serving the folks that don't even use our medical plan by hurting the less fortunate. When does this stop? It stops by your organization standing and supporting those of us willing to take a stand and say NO MORE.

Please get rid of the Graham Cassidy legislation! I stand with Senator Joe Kennedy III – He is right, we should be helping all people not the privileged few.

I am a business owner and I stand with Joe Kennedy III –

**Jeanna Dean
Florida**

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shelly Edwards [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:25 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.

Shelly Edwards
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Clermont , Florida 34711

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

POMPANO BEACH, Florida 33069

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Malcolm Miles
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lady Lake, Florida 32159

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

John Paul
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

St. Augustine, Florida 32086

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: pauline strickland [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Obamacare repeal

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because it is the wrong way to administer healthcare in this country. I currently have healthcare through my employer but not everyone is so lucky. When I was growing up my dad had a small business. He tried purchasing healthcare for his employees, but with yearly increases he was unable to afford this benefit. My husband and I are looking forward to retiring in the next five years and I had a diagnosis of Melanoma 4 years ago. On top of higher cost for older Americans I would also fall into the pre-existing category and would not be able to afford insurance. I also don't think that the idea of giving the states money in block grants is a very smart idea. We have a governor who made his millions stealing from United Health Care. This is a documented fact. If he was unwilling to help the citizens of Florida with the Medicaid expansion he is not going to help them with a block grant. I feel that he would try to figure out some way to steal the block grant.

Obamacare is not perfect, but Congress should work together to improve it for all Americans, not just the rich!

Sincerely,

Pauline Y. Strickland
Riverview, FL 33569

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: chanaw davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

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

Sincerely,
Cici Davis
Hallandale, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kariegb <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing -Sept.25,2017

Dear Sirs/ Madams,

As Congressional representatives of the all the citizens of the United States of America, you swore an oath to uphold and defend the U. S. Constitution. The Preamble states that the Constitution was ordained to establish Justice, insure Domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity.

The Graham-Cassidy Health Bill would not establish Justice as not every American would be treated fairly or equally under the bill. It would not establish Domestic Tranquility as it creates chaos and does not help preserve life. It does not provide for the common defense as both active and retired military personnel would not receive adequate medical treatment. It definitely does not provide for the general Welfare as inequality of coverage exist between economic groups. The poor are negatively and unfairly affected by the bill. The blessings of Liberty and Prosperity are affronted by this bill!

If Congress is truly endeavoring to create a Health Bill that benefits all Americans, it would be advantageous to enlist the aid of experts in the fields of medicine who understand the intricacies of the subject.

Sincerely,
Karen Butts
Lantana, Florida 33462

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzanne Sherman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Suzanne Sherman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

englewood, Florida 34223

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: José Ayerve [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy Bill!

Esteemed Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I think it is incredibly insane to try to come up with a healthcare standard to replace the Affordable Care Act in such a short amount of time. The ACA took many months of debate, study, hearings, etc. before it was brought to a vote. In the process, some Republicans had actually worked with Democrats to make sure that their voices and ideas would be included in the legislation. If you remember, many, if not all of the Senators who had worked on the ACA bill, ultimately opposed it.

One of the main ideas behind the ACA was to offer a federal subsidy to the States as they each began expanding Medicare and rolling out their insurance marketplaces. The Supreme Court voted in favor of absolving States from that mandate that had been part of the law. What happened then? Well, quite a few Republican Governors opted not to expand and, instead, put their constituents at the mercy of the federal insurance exchange, which offered ACA-approved coverage, but at a significantly higher rate and with only the minimal coverage. Those States who participated in the expansion saw a huge decrease in the number of uninsured individuals and an increase in savings (See Kentucky Kynect, for instance). The ACA was working.

Sure, there were computer glitches and website issues that affected enrollment, but those problems were overcome and resolved within a matter of months, in time for folks like myself to apply for and purchase an individual healthcare plan. In the first year of the ACA, I paid approximately \$270/month for coverage. I had one routine physical, with a \$10 copay (if I remember correctly), and I used my dental coverage to pay for two cleanings throughout the course of the year and paid a \$20 copay each time. What I paid in a year is far less than the amount I received in services, but it was well worth it, knowing that because I was paying my premium, a. I had piece of mind, and b. I knew it made other folks in much more difficult predicaments able to afford their healthcare coverage a little bit more. This is the idea behind insurance; it's there for when you need it, or when your neighbors or relatives or friends need it, and it's there to prevent folks like us from going bankrupt.

All the while, more folks participating in insurance, means more money passing through insurers. Sure, some people will need many, many thousands of dollars in care, but they may just be folks who have spent a long time without insurance, and their small aches and health issues that at one point in time would have been easily manageable if they'd had insurance, have now become full-grown, life-threatening problems -all because they had previously not had access to affordable insurance! My point is, it's a very good idea for everyone to be insured. I think if we spent a fraction of what we spend on our military, helping to subsidize healthcare for our citizens, we could actually transition to a *Medicare For All* style plan.

Including a massive tax cut for the wealthiest citizens as part of this repeal-and-replace effort, is incredibly irresponsible and absolutely the thing we, as a nation, SHOULD NOT BE DOING. It irks me that those folks earning in the top 1% would be so selfish as to pressure their Senators and Representatives in Congress to do everything possible to ease their current tax burden. It's SHAMEFUL. Stop listening to them. Yes, they have a lot of money and donate to many campaigns, but that doesn't mean that they are more important than the families who may soon be facing bankruptcy, illness, death, and all the very difficult choices that come with the

removal of current safeguards, such as, the ACA rule that makes it illegal for insurers to charge more for pre-existing conditions or to refuse to cover treatment because of them.

I think it's insane that the Graham-Cassidy Bill makes it illegal for healthcare plans to cover abortion, a procedure that has been legal in the US for decades!!!! and to deny them access to routine reproductive services, pap smears, breast exams, etc. -all because Republican voters think Planned Parenthood is the devil. **DON'T LISTEN TO THEM! THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE SCOPE OF SERVICES OFFERED BY PLANNED PARENTHOOD**, and they're too ignorant to actually read and study up on the great things that they do. For many people, Planned Parenthood is the only readily available and affordable health clinic around. That was the case for me, from the age of 21 (1995) until the advent of the ACA in 2014.

Perhaps the thing that most bothers me about the Graham-Cassidy proposed bill is that it would keep coverage for Viagra and include a Tax Cut for the 1%, while slashing healthcare funds by over \$200 billion and making it impossible for women to afford reproductive services. **THAT IS THE DEFINITION OF MESSED-UP!**

So, please, think about what you're doing and **STOP IT**. Dedicate some time to examining how other countries have made the transition to universal healthcare coverage and stop trying to make it harder for people to access affordable healthcare. If Congress wants to work on improving the ACA, I am absolutely willing to support it, be it led by Republicans or Democrats. After all, part of the blueprint for the ACA was a plan proposed by the GOP in the late 90's, wasn't it?

I am paying attention. Please make **GOOD** choices.

Thank you for your time,

José I. Ayerve
Port St. Lucie, FL



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Abend [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on health care replace

Stop screwing up our right to health care!!

Remember we can vote you out if office!

Nancy Abend

Daytona Beach

32114

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Novotny [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:41 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.

Jan Novotny
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan Heidenreich [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:31 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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Megan Heidenreich
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Seminole, Florida 33777

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Novotny [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:33 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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Jan Novotny
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham cassidy act

I am absolutley opposed to this bill because of the negative impacts to the weakest members of our society And for the continued uncertainty it causes in such a large segment of our economy. My stepson has suffered with a congenital disease for his entire life- actions by the state of florida prevented him from being able to secure appropriate pain management and he ultimately fell into the despair of opioid abuse. We were unable to help because of the devastating way it overtakes any semblance of responsible behavior. When he finally was able to get assistance through the mental heath provisions in the ACA, his life began to turn around and our family was able to be restored. The state of Florida has suffered catastrophic damage this year and certainly will not be looking to expand its role in caring for medicaid recipients should you pass this act. Saying pre existing conditions are covered is a LIE when such coverage costs more than you make in a year.

This is a partisan attack on those least able to withstand it, in exchange for a "W" for the party.

Robin Davis

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 32176
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne DeMaria [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

The following letter is my testimony against the Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing to repeal the ACA on September 25, 2017. My name is Anne DeMaria and I have a grown son who was a victim of a bicycle hit and run accident 8 years ago. At the time of the accident, he was 1 week away from his 21st birthday. They never found the person who caused his accident. According to the physician, our son was "clipped" by a car and the force was enough to knock our son's balance off. Our son, Greg, hit the left temporal bone of his skull. Surgery was not performed on his skull because it was considered too risky. He required physical therapy to learn how to walk again, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and psychiatric therapy due to PTSD, OCD, and depression due to his injury. During his treatment, he was given certain steroids to reduce brain swelling which led to avascular necrosis of his hip bones. This is a condition where the ball of the hip deteriorates to the consistency of an egg shell with an empty interior. In other words, the bone can no longer hold the weight of the body and he subsequently had a full hip replacement of his right hip. He will need a full hip replacement surgery of his left hip as well. At the time of the accident, our son was a full time student and he was able to be on our health care insurance. Unfortunately, the therapies and surgeries led our son to delay his education to that of a part-time student and part-time employee. In fact, our son still receives therapies and he is now 29 years old. He still needs about 1-2 years of college to finish his Bachelor of Science degree. He is currently receiving insurance through the Affordable Care Act and thank goodness for that insurance! A full hip replacement costs approximately \$50,000. Because of our son's age, he will need several hip replacements in his lifetime.

If it weren't for the ACA, our son would never have been able to receive many of the therapies that help him cope. Without the ACA, our son would not be able to walk or afford his medications. He would be on permanent disability. The ACA has prevented our son from receiving disability checks. He wants as normal a life as possible. He is doing everything he can to continue with his education and part-time work but he can't afford private insurance without the ACA. If the Senate votes for the Graham-Cassidy Bill, our son will not be able to qualify for any insurance program due to the costs for pre-existing conditions. In addition, the Graham-Cassidy Bill penalizes persons with mental health disabilities. It would not cover medication costs that treat: PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder), OCD (obsessive compulsive disorder) and Depression which are symptoms of brain injuries.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill has been publicly stated to favor the wealthy donors who back the Republican Party Senators. Voting for this Bill sends a loud and clear message to the American Citizens that the Republican Party favors the wealthy donors over that of the majority of the nation's citizens. My family has spent a great deal of money out-of-pocket to help our son in addition to helping him pay for his own ACA insurance. If the Senate votes in favor of this Bill, it will make it extremely difficult for us to help our son with his medical costs and impossible for our son to pay for his insurance by himself. This Graham-Cassidy Bill would make it impossible for our son to finish his college education and get a job that would allow him to live independently. In addition, my husband and I are nearing our retirement years. This Bill would penalize us financially as well and we would never be able to help our son meet his goals.

I implore you to Vote No to the Graham-Cassidy Bill! Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,
Anne DeMaria


Pembroke Pines, FL, 33029

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Arlyn Grant <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why I Need the ACA

I was healthy until I wasn't. I never got sick, never got the flu. In 2007, at the age of 42, I was diagnosed with cancer. The short-term effects were that I lost my job and had to file bankruptcy and lost a house. The long-term effects were that I developed a sleep disorder similar to narcolepsy. I can no longer work full-time with 24 to 32 hours per week being best for me. I do not qualify for disability because I am college educated and can work part-time. I live in Florida, where people like me are lost in the in-between spaces. I have no other source of income because I am single.

Thanks to the ACA, I can get health coverage for my cancer screenings and basic needs WITHOUT HAVING TO WORK FULL-TIME. Without it, I will go back to relying on charities and not paying bills. I have a new area of concern that is being watched for cancer growth. It is now a pre-existing condition, and if it becomes cancer, how will I pay for my treatment and surgeries?

The ACA needs fixing, no one is arguing that point. But the good that it does is being overlooked by people who don't understand how insurance works. I'm tired of hearing people say they couldn't use the ACA insurance because the deductible was too high. Yet, they ignored the fact that yearly exams, lab work, cancer screenings, etc., were all offered at no cost - even if the deductible wasn't met.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts.

Arlyn Grant

[REDACTED]
Winter Garden, FL 34787

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzzette Allen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please do not pass this bill! It is not good for women, men, children or the disabled! Please do not fall for the sham that pre-existing conditions will still be covered! Allowing the states the right to opt out of covering pre-existing conditions will NOT protect the millions of Americans with pre-existing conditions.

This legislation is a Travesty! Just because you campaigned for 8 years to repeal/replace the ACA, does not mean that it is a good idea today! Especially if Graham-Cassidy is the best replacement alternative for the ACA! You want to talk "death panels" this legislation is the ultimate death panel for millions of Americans.

A disgusted American voter,

Suzzette Allen
Oviedo, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Hollowell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GRAHAM/CASSIDY BILL

I can't believe that you are trying, again, to get rid of the ACA. It needs to be fixed, not scrapped. Sending health care back to the states sounds like a great plan, but there will not be the money to implement in in the long term. You must not let this bill pass. Vote NO!

--
Jennifer Hollowell
Tampa, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Missy Ward [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Deathcare

Good morning,

I'm writing to declare my disdain for this healthcare bill. Honestly, the first two plans were bad enough -- this one is so much worse. It represents a war in women, people with pre-existing conditions and Medicaid. It's time to put politics aside, shore up ACA and don't get caught up in repeal and replace with this horrible piece of legislature

Missy ward

Florida Resident

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Mitchell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I have been imploring my senators to vote against this bill. It has been too quickly brought up and is being forced through without debate and without estimate of how many would become uninsured.

People with pre-existing conditions will be in peril, as states can opt out of guaranteeing coverage. Additionally, without the individual mandate, the cost of covering pre-existing conditions becomes exponentially higher. The cost of premiums will create a huge number of uninsured, putting the burden on EVERYONE, not just those with pre-existing conditions.

What happened to bi-partisan efforts to come up with reasonable alternatives or fixes to the ACA? After the last attempt at repeal failed, everyone seemed to agree that was the best way to move forward. Now we suddenly have this bill being crammed through just to beat the deadline of Sept. 30 to get the 50 vote threshold. If a bill cannot gain the support of a single Democrat, and is in danger of not even getting 50 Republicans to vote for it, there is something very wrong!

My state just endured the worst hurricane we've had in my 40 years of living here. This bill feels to us like adding insult to injury. I am busy cleaning up my home and dealing with the aftermath, bearing expenses of evacuation and lost wages, yet I feel compelled to take time to write to you to express my opinion. I hope you are noting the opposition to the bill and will act accordingly.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Leslie Mitchell
Rockledge, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: PAT GARRIGAN <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill
Attachments: IMG_2781.JPG; ATT00001.txt

We are seriously opposed to this bill. My husband Mike has Diabetes, Cardiac issues, and now esophagus cancer. We need full protection that pre-existing conditions will affect our insurance rates. Do not give this to the states. Please have compassion! Thank you!

Pat & Mike Garrigan

[REDACTED]

Naples, FL.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jamie Bryant <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fw: Subject: CassidyGrahamBill comments for record

On Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:52 PM, Jamie Bryant <jambie61@yahoo.com> wrote:

September 21, 2017

To the Senate:

I am a fifty-five year old woman who worked in the social services field with abused children and later mentally ill adults for over twenty-five years. My father worked his entire life and is now in a nursing home due to advanced Alzheimer's Disease. I had to place him there many years ago when he was no longer safe to live in his own home because he wandered and didn't know who he was or where he was. He used the savings from selling his house and all of his assets to pay for his care in the nursing home. He is now in his late nineties.

My father used to recognize me and sometimes other people, but he no longer does. He does not know who he is, who anyone else is, or where he is, but he is still a human being and deserves to receive good medical care. He has advanced Alzheimer's and also has medical issues including that he can no longer walk.

He lives in a good rural nursing home in Pennsylvania with many other elderly people who also depend on Medicaid. These people would be lost and would probably die without Medicaid. I am physically disabled myself now, and although I hate it, it is a fact of life. I am not able to physically care for my father. He has medical needs. He is not just in the nursing home to be supervised. He is there because he requires nursing care. He needs to be lifted in and out of his bed and wheelchair. He has several medical issues.

The elderly people in his nursing home and others need nursing care. They need their nurses and doctors. Taking Medicaid insurance away from them would be a death sentence. It would be cruel. In a country like America where we can afford to care for our sick and elderly it would be unthinkable to do pass a bill that would kill people.

Please vote no on the Graham Cassidy bill. There is no reason to pass this bill.

I have read the article on Twitter about the Koch Brothers and how the GOP will benefit financially if they pass this bill. I am appalled that the GOP would pass a bill that would literally kill people from lack of access to medical care so that the members of the GOP in Congress would have access to money. I grew in poverty. My family was on food stamps and I received free lunches in grades seven through twelve, as closely as I can remember. I was embarrassed. I hated it. My parents were not perfect people or parents, but they worked hard. They were the working poor.

I worked hard and put myself through college. I have not been rich because I chose to work in social services. I knew that I wouldn't be, but my husband and I have been okay and been able to pay our bills. I still do not understand how anyone, including the members of the GOP could choose money over the lives of people, even the lives of strangers. It is disgusting and reprehensible to me.

I have seen America become a place that I do not recognize. I have seen an American President embarrass me with his words and actions. I have seen members of Congress do the same. I hope that Congress will vote no on this bill and not further shame this country with their greed and lack of integrity.

Please vote no on this bill. And to the GOP, please stop trying to kill Americans with your horrific bills. This needs to stop. No more cruel healthcare bills.

Thank you for your time.

Jamie W. Bryant.
Florida.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Barry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal of ACA, AHCA and the Graham Cassidy Amendment

As an American citizen, a resident of Florida, and a member of the Democratic Party, I strongly oppose the GOP's part in efforts to erase every trace of POTUS44 and his landmark healthcare legislation.

Using, as an excuse, that the reason you were elected is to repeal this bill is inaccurate, implausible and unbelievable. If you cannot work together in a bipartisan matter for the greater good of the American people and their collective health then you must step down and step away from the process altogether.

As an executive in United healthcare for 13 years I am well aware of the intricacies of the ACA and it's many hundreds of pages. I wrote thousands of words arguing against it. I did this because I was representing an insurance company's best interest. The company who wanted to make an unlimited amount of profit while providing substandard policies, cutting people's benefits and denying their claims.

The insurance market adjusted to what we saw as unreasonable demands upon it as a result of ACA. They figured out how to make money, regardless.

The generation of young voters knows no other market as a matter of fact. They take for granted that they can stay on their parents insurance until age 26. They take for granted that those parents will be able to turn to Medicare in their retirement years. They take for granted that essential health care, preventive care and access to specialized care is part of every health insurance policy. Most importantly, they take for granted that everyone has a right to quality health coverage.

We are well aware that the Koch brothers have placed a carrot before your party - \$400 million into the GOP coffers. We are also well aware that this money and your reelection are the only thing you care about.

You have forgotten the tenants of the constitution that you swore to abide by. And you failed to notice that the greater voting population is against you. The last effort at repeal had 16% approval rating.

Tell us again about the promise that you made to your constituents? Did you promise to rewind the clock to when medical bills caused bankruptcies and 20 more million uninsured suffered for lack of affordable coverage? Back to when carriers could cancel policies if you became ill? Back to when carriers could refuse to cover you altogether if you had a preexisting condition?

Oh, yes, Senators Graham and Cassidy. We know your amendment doesn't protect those with pre existing conditions. We know you are looking into the blinking eye of those cameras and lying to the American people.

There is no redemption at this point. You may as well gather the shattered remnants of whatever pride and moral code you have and go forward in the private sector - somewhere where you can no longer hurt the rest of us.

May god forgive you - I never will.

Susan Barry
Zip: 32569.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrew Mahlstedt [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Hearing Committee, Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern:

I have a pre-existing condition, one of those pre-existing conditions that one is born with; if Dr. Cassidy hears this, it is homocystinuria — only 200-300 cases in the US...very rare. For this, I take a very expensive medication, and of course need regular care otherwise.

Before the ACA, I could not get health care except on group health care plans. I am lucky — I am well educated, and have always been able to find employment when I look for it — but in the last year I have been able to become an independent entrepreneur, purchasing health care on my own.

Republicans say they like entrepreneurs, but this bill makes it harder for Americans to strike out on their own professionally if they have any medical complication.

Please do not let this pass.

Sincerely,

andrew mahlstedt
Pembroke Pines, FL 33028

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Moynihan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I am outraged by the latest attack on my healthcare!

Hello,

I am a 49-year-old voting taxpayer in Orlando, FL. I run my own successful small business that contributes economically to my country, and rely on ACA to help me with healthcare costs, especially as I have a pre-existing condition with predisposed genetic background. The 10 essential healthcare benefits of Obamacare This latest attempt to "prove something" to the smaller part of the American electorate who you count on for reelection in 2018 is misguided, unethical and downright un-Democratic. As are the repeated statements by leading GOP officials that a bipartisan fix would not even be considered. Anyone who votes for this does not have the best interests of Americans in mind.

Please vote against the misleading, mean-spirited, fiscally irresponsible atrocity that is the Graham-Cassidy Amendment.

Thank you.

Susan Moynihan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lora Tucker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: CenterLink testimony for Mondays Graham Cassidy Bill
Attachments: CenterLink Statement for Graham_Cassidy_Heller_Johnson Proposal 9.2017.pdf

Please add this testimony to Monday's hearing on the Graham Cassidy Bill.
Thank you

Lora L. Tucker
CEO
CenterLink
P O Box 24490
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307
[REDACTED]
lora@lgbtcenters.org

*"To get to the next level of greatness depends
on the quality of the culture, which depends on
the quality of relationships, which depends on the
quality of conversations.*

Everything happens through conversations." - Judith E. Glaser



WHO DO YOU TRUST ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY?

We know in the heat of a political debate, especially on an issue as important as health care, the details can be complicated or confusing. The best way to cut through the noise is to look who is for the Cassidy-Graham rep who is against it. Take a look for yourself. Who do you trust?

FOR	OPPOSE
<p><u>Sen. Bill Cassidy</u></p>	<p> <u>AARP</u> <u>ALS Association</u> <u>American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network</u> <u>American College Of Physicians</u> <u>American Diabetes Association</u> <u>American Medical Association</u> <u>American Academy of Family Physicians</u> <u>American Academy of Pediatrics</u> <u>American College of Physicians</u> <u>American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists</u> <u>America's Essential Hospitals</u> <u>America's Health Insurance Plans</u> <u>American Heart Association</u> <u>American Hospital Association</u> <u>American Lung Association</u> <u>American Nurses Association</u> <u>American Osteopathic Association</u> <u>American Psychiatric Association</u> <u>The Arc</u> <u>Arthritis Foundation</u> <u>Association Of Community Affiliated Plans</u> <u>Blue Cross Blue Shield Association</u> <u>Catholic Health Association</u> <u>Children's Hospital Association</u> <u>Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose</u> <u>Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities</u> <u>Consumers Union</u> <u>Cystic Fibrosis Foundation</u> <u>Family Voices</u> <u>Federation of American Hospitals</u> <u>Greater New York Hospital Association</u> <u>Jimmy Kimmel</u> <u>JDRE</u> <u>Lutheran Services in America</u> <u>Kaiser Permanente</u> <u>Kansas Hospital Association</u> <u>March of Dimes</u> <u>National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship</u> <u>National Health Council</u> <u>National Multiple Sclerosis Society</u> <u>National Organization for Rare Diseases</u> <u>The School Superintendents Association and 70+ Groups</u> <u>Volunteers of America</u> <u>WomenHeart</u> </p>

The president has stated unequivocally he will not sign a bill that does not preserve the current protections on pre-existing conditions. And it has been made clear the country supports the continuance of these protections. Yet this bill does not continue those protections, the wording of the bill clearly leaves those with pre-existing conditions at risk for huge increases in health care costs, again I am sure the exact wording will be introduced by others but it is clear by analysis performed by numerous trusted unbiased sources including Blue Cross/Blue Shield (public statement by them) that this is the case. The country does not want those protections loosened, and neither does the president by his words (Twitter).

I will stop here. It is SO beneath the United States to pass this insufficiently vetted hugely unpopular bill which will impact 1/6 of the economy in a rushed fashion like this.

Thank you,
Michelle Bass
Orlando, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandy Higdon [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Republican Health Care Bill

Gentlemen:

I wish to register my opposition to the latest version of the UNAFFORDABLE Health Care Bill.

I understand that you Gentlemen made Campaign Promises that if elected, you would repeal the Affordable Care Act. I remember that you ALSO promised to replace it with "something better".

I do not think that taking Health Care away from 32 Million citizens makes it better. So, I ask you ... better for WHO? Even the Doctors, the Hospitals, and Healthcare Providers, the Insurance Companies plus AARP are all against this bill. As a matter of FACT, the majority of the citizens of this country are against it!

A handful of Congressmen went behind closed doors and wrote this up without any oversight as to what it will cost, the effect it will have on the populous or any input from the Citizens.

I understand that the Koch Brothers have promised NOT to give you guys any campaign contributions unless you pass this bill. Now, there you go!! The perfect reason to "shove" this bill through. OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES will vote for a bill which will have a devastating impact on Millions and Millions of the citizens of this country. Naturally, you want to impose the MOST punishment on the poorest of the poor, the children, the elderly and the sick.

YOU want to call ours A Christian Nation? I do not see anything "Christian" in what you all are doing. As a matter of fact, I believe you have sold out The Citizens of this country for 30 pieces of silver!

Sandra S. Higdon
[REDACTED]
Tallahassee, FL. 32303
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike David [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass Graham-Cassidy amendment

Senators,

Do not pass the Graham-Cassidy amendment. This is not how a sane country reforms one sixth of the world's largest economy.

Work with all of Congress to develop a plan that works for all Americans.

Respectfully,
Mike David
Florida resident

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Higgins [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote no on Graham Cassidy bill

My family has members with pre-existing conditions which will not be covered if this bill passes. People will die because of financial inability to pay premiums. The bill is cruel and unjust. Please be aware that we are watching to see who cares if we live or die.

Paula Higgins
Tampa, Florida 33624

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kara Schwartz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy repeal. Its effects and implications have not been thoroughly examined, there is significant opposition from medical societies and charities across the board, and it's not clear that those who are voting on the bill have had adequate time to review it.

Health care makes up 1/6 of our economy. The ACA is certainly not perfect and needs much work. However, rushing a possibly worse alternative through without thorough vetting is a mistake. Millions of lives are at stake.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Kara Schwartz
[REDACTED]
Gainesville FL 32601

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah McKenna [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Why I oppose the bill to repeal the ACA

Hello,

I wanted to make a statement to explain why I so strongly oppose ACA repeal. All of the recent attempts to “repeal and replace” have had details in them that cut coverage to millions of Americans. The current bill appears to be no different, other than it’s being rushed through prior to a CBO score, before the public can learn exactly how many millions will lose coverage under this plan.

I was a purchaser on the individual market for years prior to the ACA. I know the difference in quality of the plans that were offered before the ACA and after. I know that I could not get maternity coverage to start my family, except through one provider as a rider (with a 30 day waiting period) at triple the cost of the bare bones plan I had to purchase just to be able to afford it. I know that prior to the ACA, I had to fill out applications that took literally HOURS, including every tiny little detail of my entire medical history before I could get coverage. Luckily for me, I had been pretty healthy so, while still very expensive, at least I was offered a plan. A lot of people weren’t so lucky. And all the while, you had to be afraid to actually USE the plan, because they could cancel your coverage or your premiums could sky-rocket if things started being billed that they didn’t like. This, it should be obvious, is NOT quality care. This is not effective or affordable or manageable for the majority of the population.

The new bills the senate Republicans are trying to push through allow insurers to discriminate against women, to charge completely unaffordable premiums for people with pre-existing conditions (forcing them to go without coverage at all) and allows states to let insurers get away with dropping essential health benefits like maternity coverage, among many other things.

The ACA has provided a lifeline to people like me who can’t get group coverage from their employers. Now I just log in and sign up. I don’t have to answer lengthy questions about my medical history and I know that the things I need to be covered will actually be covered, and that I can use my plan without punishment. All Americans deserve this, and those who are trying to take away this access should be ashamed. I mean that with all sincerity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah McKenna
St Petersburg FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Van Bergen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Amy Van Bergen
Subject: Opposition to Cassidy-Graham Healthcare Proposal



Dear Senate Finance Committee:

This is a photo of my son Wils, who is 26 and works two days per week at a local law firm. Here he is with his good friend Katie at another friend's wedding a few weeks ago held at the History Center in Orlando.

Wils relies on Medicaid in order to be more independent...so that he can live in his own place, ride the Access Lynx bus to and from work and work on job-training skills in his community. This is all part of the Medicaid Waiver program for Long Term Supports and Services. His "medwaiver" budget is about \$12,000 a year. We as his family are carrying most of the costs of his living expenses (medwaiver doesn't provide for that at all) and his adult siblings provide about 60 hours of support to him every month so that he can be successful.

The waiver program was created in the first place so that individuals like Wils could live within their own community rather than in a segregated institution. The cost of institutions is at least 5-6 times higher per person, not to mention the awful quality of life. I am old enough to remember these places and you would not want your sons or daughters living in one.

While I agree wholeheartedly that the Medicaid system is in need of reform (I will happily volunteer to serve on task forces or focus groups to look at that), this healthcare bill is NOT the way to address Medicaid reform. There are too many complexities that are not even being looked at or understood in this rush to replace the current healthcare system.

If passed, this healthcare bill and the proposed Medicaid changes will simply destroy the lives of my son Wils and other adults with developmental disabilities. I do not use the word DESTROY slightly...and I am begging you to vote no.

With my heartfelt thanks for your leadership and for taking the time to read about Wils' amazing life,

Amy Van Bergen

[REDACTED]
Orlando FL 32804

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
Amy Van Bergen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sabrina Gallegos <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Gram-Cassidy Bill

Hi,

I'm a mother of two Autistic children. I ask you please vote no on Gram-Cassidy Bill. It will cut funding to those with disabilities who need Medi-Cal and Medi-Caid. People who can't work and need health care. America is supposed to be about helping others. Not everyone has the ability to work. I don't look at my children as burden to anyone (including the government) as they didn't ask to be born. I myself didn't know they would have Autism as well. No one is at fault. My kids, and other disabled people deserve good healthcare. It's wrong to cut funding to those in need. If America is helping with funding people who have natural disasters, then why in heck would anyone take away from those in need??? That's very flip floppy and very stupid. To help one, but take from another in need. Anyway, the National AUTISM Association knows what's going on with the bill, and asked me and others to write to you. Please consider what I'm asking of you. I thank you for your time in reading this. 🙏

Sabrina :)

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jim Prall [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

No version of the Graham-Cassidy health care bill I've heard of really preserves the ACA's protection for pre-existing conditions. All it does is download to the States the responsibility for dealing with the this, and many States may be unable to fund comparable insurance affordability supports without tossing out this protection. This ACA protection has strong support from Americans across the nation.

Further, it is fantasy to imagine 50 States can each set up and fund State-level exchanges and supports even close to those of the ACA in short order. Many will not be able to, and residents of those states will just lose coverage - pre-existing conditions will price millions out of the market.

There is no 'replace' in this repeal effort. Saying the States are now free to try to recreate ACA benefits with no direction or required standards invites both chaos and a patchwork of incompatible systems. American who cross state lines for work or to access the best nearby care, and those moving between State will all face new legal and financial pitfalls. Canada has universal, single payer mandated by a Federal Act of Parliament but implemented by the Provinces, because under its Constitution health care is a provincial jurisdiction. The Canada Health Act mandates what the provincial plans must cover, precludes pre-existing condition premiums and ensures those moving between provinces have unbroken coverage while changing plans.

But Graham-Cassidy fails to put in place any of these protections. It kicks the can to State legislatures and administrations, none of whom are prepared to assume this role on short notice. Where is the design of a model state plan? Where is protection for free movement from state to state? Block grants alone will not create capacity from thin air - capacity for design, implementation and administration don't just arise by fiat in a day.

Repealing ACA under current circumstances would be a disaster for Americans. The CBO can hardly even cost out the impacts, with no visibility into where States would be able to carry the ball that Congress seems to want to punt to them.

Beamed out from my Retina

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: lauren corallo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:29 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.

Lauren Corallo

--

Lauren Corallo | 602-826-5544



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tree Daniels <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:29 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.

Tom Daniels
Brecksville, OH 44141

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Kaye McClure <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

The Graham-Cassidy bill creates loopholes that would allow exorbitant premiums for anyone with a pre-existing condition.

The bill would not reimburse Planned Parenthood for its services to Medicaid patients.

It would allow states to end maternity coverage and would allow insurers to charge seniors unaffordable high premiums.

That is NOT a health care bill. It is a death-panel bill!

Your duty as members of Congress is to enact good public policies. It is not to destroy policies that the majority of Americans support.

The ACA is supported by the majority of your constituents. We realize it needs adjusting. Full repeal is based entirely on spite and has no place as we craft policy on critical national issues.

Bipartisan collaboration is the only path acceptable to us voters. You must return to order, take the necessary time to explore real improvements and propose a health-care bill that makes us all proud.

Come to your senses. This is an amazing opportunity to create historic legislation. Repeal has no place in this national endeavor.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth McClure
Phoenix AZ 85028
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Justin R Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators, members of of the finance committee,

I am extremely saddened to hear about yet another rushed attempt at replacing the ACA with yet another poorer version of it. Giving states more options in how they deal with healthcare is good, but removing the funding so they can accomplish this and removing requirements for pre-existing conditions makes no sense! All you will be accomplishing is hurting millions of people for some possible political points.

PLEASE, all of you, come together and work on this legislation TOGETHER so that we can get ACTUAL BETTER HEALTHCARE! By even trying to pass this, you are only hurting our country and our ability to deal with the challenges of this new century. This is not a game - you are all there to make our country run more smoothly and not to make it more right-wing or left-wing. We need solutions, not ideology and theory!

Again, I beg you to throw away this bill and focus instead on something that will take time to craft, will have the support from most affected parties, and makes everyone's lives better.

I thank you deeply for your time and consideration in this matter.

All the best,

Justin Taylor

Edgewater, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roberto Bacalski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is bad law.

I understand that Republicans are feeling pressured to keep their promise to repeal Obamacare but to put forth a bill that has bigger flaws than the ones that caused the July bill to fail is embarrassing. I am embarrassed for Senators Graham and Cassidy. Obamacare provides insurance to thousands of people who could not have otherwise afforded it or acquired it in the first place. Parts of Obamacare work and some parts need improvement. It boggles the mind that two supposedly educated men would sponsor a bill that removes those aspects that are benefitting their own base! This bill should not come to the floor for a vote. If it does, the Republican Party will suffer needless humiliation again.

Thank you.

Roberto Bacalski
Fairfax, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Strauss <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed GC health care bill opposed

Senators: Take a stand against this latest effort to deny and/or reduce health care benefits for millions of people. Commit to working on a bi-partisan plan to improve the Affordable Care Act. Graham-Cassidy is a heartless and wrong-minded effort. Do NOT support it. Choose country over party. This tax-paying, regularly-voting American is paying attention.

Karen Strauss

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Virginie Mitchem [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Here's why: Our daughter has schizophrenia. For many years, our family has volunteered for NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Our community of individuals living with life-long illnesses such as schizophrenia, bi-polar, and debilitating depression work hard to continue a productive life for themselves, their families, and their community. Many have achieved incredible success, and others work hard to maintain stability. What is a key factor here? First, incredible courage and determination in the face of huge on-going challenges. Second, along with family and community support, consistent and appropriate medical care available through ACA or Medi-Cal or Medicare. Disruption or discontinuation of those services would be disastrous for many and fatal for some. Thank you for all you are doing. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Virginie Mitchem
San Jose, CA 95132-3228

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Roediger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass Graham-Cassidy

The new health care bill will be devastating for the country and for millions of people's lives. Also states will be hurt by this transfer of power, especially since it cuts funding severely. Hard for the states make changes when they don't have the money to support those changes.

We need bipartisan bill. Our politicians should not work to make donors happy, they should work to help their constituents.

As Americans, we can and must do better by our people.

Erin Roediger

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brad Mace [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to urge all Senators to vote "NO" on the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am the owner of a creative agency in Seattle, Washington that employs over 2 dozen people in professional wage jobs. We strive to be ethical employers, providing medical, dental and vision coverage with 100% company paid premiums for our employees and their families. In addition to our health benefits, we offer retirement benefits, profit sharing, professional development and a strong vacation policy in addition to better than average base compensation. We do this because not only is it good business in terms of retention of trained staff, but because it protects IP, client relationships, margin equated to operational efficiencies and promotes an engaged and passionate workforce. In addition, and this is the big reason...we do it simply because we believe it is the right and ethical thing to do...putting people and families first. We believe in profit, it allows us to have the programs that grow the business and return profit to the owner, but never at the cost of the individuals who have made us what we are, or at the expense of their loved ones.

At Touch, we have grave concerns with the provisions of this bill, its vague language and impact that it could have on all Americans as the effects of this seismic shift in 1/6th of our economy reshapes the insurance markets and fundamentally changes how people access insurance and potentially eliminates the safeguards that keep insurance affordable as possible for all people and protect those with pre-existing conditions. I am opposed to any bill being voted on before a full CBO score and am appalled that the Republican caucus would be so irresponsible to even think of voting before scoring. A few specifics that highlight our concern:

Destabilization or Destruction of Insurance Markets: As a company that works hard to provide our employees with the best possible coverage for them and their families, the Graham-Cassidy bill puts the entire insurance marketplace at grave risk as insurers grapple with the transition to block grants in 2020 and then the elimination of block grants in 2027. Immediately, with the elimination of the individual mandate there would be little clarity to the scope and shape of the markets further impacted by the chaos of all states being left to create programs wholesale without any organizing principles or oversight. Again, as a company providing insurance to our employees and as someone with friends and family members enrolled in the ACA, this seems at best rampantly irresponsible and perhaps even criminally negligent.

Block Grants: It appears that the block grants would not provide coverage at the levels of the ACA, and, between 2020 and 2026, would provide \$243 billion less than projected federal spending for the Medicaid expansion and marketplace subsidies under current law. In 2026, block grant funding would be at least \$41 billion (17 percent) below projected levels under the ACA. (Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities). Additionally, the block grants sunset after 2026 and it seems frankly short-sighted and incredibly irresponsible to pass any bill critical to the health and well-being of people with a provision like this, it is essentially a delayed time-bomb that would make this whole process repeal without replacement. Again, I cannot fathom how any Senator who truly cares about their constituents and all Americans, could, in good conscience, vote for this bill. I can only conclude that the majority of the GOP caucus is more interested in tax cuts to the wealthy (which includes me) than American's health and is putting profits and partisanship over people.

Pre-existing Conditions: Graham-Cassidy would open the door to weakening or eliminating protections for pre-existing conditions through the state waiver provision, allowing the cost of care for pre-existing conditions to sky-rocket. This alone is a fundamental reason to vote "NO" on this bill and I don't see how any caring individual could allow this destruction of protections to occur.

Medicaid: I am deeply concerned that this bill is an attack on Medicaid masquerading as a "health care" plan. I don't understand the logic behind per-capita caps which would be damaging to families with kids, seniors, people with disabilities and others. The additional cuts to Medicare, which by my reading indicate that Graham-Cassidy would, between 2020 and 2026, cut Medicare outside of restricted expansion by the better part of \$200 billion dollars. This is NOT what America is about, this is not the promise we have made to our people.

In closing, I believe that the Graham-Cassidy bill is a poorly conceived, badly written, regressive bill that is a "health-care" bill in name only and which would be deeply damaging to people, to the economy and to the values we purport to hold as Americans. I can only conclude that any Senator voting for this bill is anti-healthcare, anti-healthy people, anti a healthy economy and is not interested in what is best for America and the American people.

I think we can all agree that the ACA is not perfect, but isn't this what the legislative process is for? Shouldn't programs that are launched be evaluated and the parts that are working be made better and the parts that are not, fixed through a bi-partisan, citizen and expert engaged legislative process? To fail to do this is to fail to live up to what we as Americans could and should be. We are better than this.

Sincerely,

Brad Mace

Brad Mace

Owner and Executive Producer

[REDACTED]

Touch Worldwide

[REDACTED]

Seattle WA 98104 USA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Daniel [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please do not repeal ACA or pass Graham -Cassidy bill.

The public wants a bipartisan fix for the ACA. Please follow Regular Order, hold hearings, make info available to the public, listen to the health experts, get a Full CBO score, stop sabotaging the ACA signups..

Dear GOP- do what's truly right by all moral standards for the American people NOT catering to the demands of the Koch brothers, Mercers or other big donors!

As a high income earner family we would likely benefit from tax cuts BUT we have integrity and care about fellow citizens!

Do not let taking away real health coverage from millions of our most vulnerable be your Legacy!!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allen Frame [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because I have so many friends and relatives who would be adversely affected by it, either because of the high cost to pay to cover pre-existing conditions, or because of the cuts in Medicaid. It makes healthcare in American shockingly unaffordable and will leave many people in dire straits. Why does the Republican Senate continue to try to pass legislation that imperils the sick and disabled? The obvious solution is to do some CONSTRUCTIVE work in a bipartisan way but Republicans are simply playing politics with our lives and health. This is cynical and heinous.

Sincerely,

Allen Frame
Pinellas Park, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alex Thompson [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RCAL Comment on Graham-Cassidy
Attachments: RCAL Comment to Senate Finance.doc

Hello,

Please see attached comment from the Resource Center for Accessible Living, Inc.

Thank you,
Alex

Alex Thompson, J.D.

Systems Advocate

Resource Center for Accessible Living, Inc.

[REDACTED]
Kingston, NY 12401
www.rcal.org

[REDACTED]

Join our Advocacy Alerts mailing list: <http://eepurl.com/crqKX9>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: We must keep Medicaid, it is the " life line" for all those who are less fortunate !!!

As a Member of the National ARC and, as an Elderly Parent of a Wonderful 54 yr. old Special Needs Son, I am well aware of the dire impact of the Graham Cassidy Bill...

Millions of Families like ours would be Hurt by Changes in Medicaid...

We must care for those who cannot care for themselves !!!

Respectfully,

Mary Ellen Demrose
Bellevue, Wa.
98006

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: miriam curnin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: gch bill

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please reject this bill which is every bit as cruel and financially disastrous for so many millions of our fellow citizens. I am totally opposed to it and hope you will be also.

Miriam Curnin
Larchmont, Ny 10538

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ravi Mahalingam [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: #grahamcassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

The Graham-Cassidy bill, like every other version of Trumpcare, will devastate working Americans. It will strip away health insurance for millions, discriminate against people who have pre-existing conditions, and impose devastating cuts and caps to medicaid, passing the burden to states and ultimately to emergency rooms. Trumpcare will destroy lives, and damage the entire health services industry, which represents 1/6th of the US economy. My own circle of family and friends will be impacted, as my circle includes people who are disabled and/or have chronic pre-existing conditions.

Americans are tired of having to beg their elected members of Congress to let them live and care for themselves without going into bankruptcy. Yet, this Republican controlled Congress has done little else but needlessly create more life or death drama for millions of people. This Congress has demonstrated time and again that it is beholden to the donor class, America's modern day oligarchs like the Koch Brothers, the Mercer family, the Adelsons and others who have dominated the politics of the GOP in the Citizens United era. We're demanding that our elected Representatives serve the basic needs of the people. Americans do not begrudge wealth, nor are they anti-business. However, we do expect that government will not sell out the most vulnerable and the working class for the greedy, ideological wish lists of oligarchs who do not have the nation's best interests at heart.

Vote No on Graham Cassidy and any other form of Trumpcare. Accept Obamacare as part of the American health care framework, and work together to improve it.

Sincerely,

Ravi Mahalingam
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan Christensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

This bill does NOT fix Obamacare problems. It makes them WORSE. It does NOT REDUCE the cost of premiums. In fact, people aged 50-65 can be charged 5x the cost to younger people, rather than 3x. Some would have to pay more than their annual income.

People with pre-existing conditions are NOT likely to be protected, despite what the authors of this bill says. The only way insurance companies can afford to cover pre-existing conditions is by having a very large pool with many younger and healthier individuals. That was ended by ending the individual mandate.

Obamacare is, by necessity, a complex system which relies on the individual and employer mandate, taxes on medical equipment and wealthier Americans to work to provide the funds to pay for it. This bill eliminates much of its funding source, so how can it be expected to work???

Nothing as important as health insurance should be decided in a hurry, without adequate time to fully understand the consequences (CBO score). Trump wants to protect Americans against terrorist attacks, but the lack of health insurance is a much bigger threat to American lives than terrorist attacks. It causes much greater suffering and kills millions a year. This bill is estimated to lead to 32 million people losing their insurance.

I live in a rural community (International Falls, MN) which is three hours from a city of any size (Duluth, pop. 75,000). Many rural hospitals have closed, and those remaining are in trouble financially. Without Medicaid funding, on which they rely, they are likely to have to close. This means if I have a life-threatening emergency, I am likely to die. Even if it isn't life-threatening, getting to Duluth in the winter could be life-threatening. I am also getting older and live alone. What happens when I can't drive.

Most nursing homes rely heavily on Medicaid. What happens to all the patients in nursing homes when they close? What happens to all the people with serious and persistent mental illnesses when they can't afford the expensive antipsychotic medication, now paid by Medicaid, which keeps them stable enough to live in the community? The huge inhumane state mental hospitals where they used to be warehoused no longer exist.

The ACA isn't perfect. But this bill is a disaster. I support Republicans and Democrats working together to stabilize the insurance markets and to bring premiums down. I know that the Alexander-Murray attempt didn't work, but there are two other Senators starting to work on this again.

Joan Christensen
[REDACTED]
Intl Falls, MN 56649

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JLH [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:20 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.

Judith Hines
Mesa, AZ

Sent from my Verizon Motorola Smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M-Tak [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

This reckless and damaging bill would strip millions of Americans of healthcare, and decimate vital Medicaid benefits. All major health care organizations, including AHA, AARP, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and more, plus doctors, nurses, and other professionals oppose it.

I strong urge NO votes on this.

I am a senior citizen, small business owner of over 40 years, a voter, and a lifelong Ohio resident.

-- Anne Moore
Findlay, OH 45840

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S® 6, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stefan Novak [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy

Please respect government process by allowing the CBO adequate time to study the impact of the proposed legislation. It's what the American people want. This issue is frustrating the American people in a troubling time. Please do not take away our rights.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donn Bech [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: remark for Graham cassidy Bill

I was born with Osteogenesis Imperfecta. It's a condition where one doesn't have enough collagen in their body. My bones and teeth are fragile. As a child, I was as fragile as glass or ceramic. I have broken over 1000 bones - the same bones repeatedly. As a child, my father worked at a company and had a group policy. I was lucky they didn't cut me off. I had to have several surgeries involving placing metal rodding in my arms legs and eventually my back due to scoliosis. I stayed on my dad's insurance as long as I remained in college. I held a letter of insurability by the time I was kicked off and I couldn't get insurance. Handicapped people are put on Medicare. I had to be on Medicare which we know does not cover every medical problem a person has like dental. When ACA was in place I was able to get real health insurance ___dental and eye. Before on Medicare I had no dental or eye and had to find a way to pay it - like my parents. With ACA I have insurance, dental, eye insurance that help me with added health problems such as asthma, glaucoma, psoriasis, depression, anxiety, and arthritis. If I lose ACA my glaucoma will worsen if I can afford my meds and quarterly office visits to monitor the pressure in my eyes. My last resort would be eye surgery. If I can't afford eye meds, how can I afford the eye surgery? Will they deny my pre-existing condition? I am in a wheelchair I cannot walk. If I go blind I can't even use a guide dog. I will be more helpless and vulnerable than before. My teeth are fragile that even eating chicken I have broken my teeth off. A healthy mouth avoids other health problems. The ACA has helped me by allowing me to purchase dental and eye insurance whereas Medicare doesn't cover it. Furthermore, I have psoriasis. I cannot take medication to cure it because I had skin cancer ---twice--- and had to have emergency surgery to remove it. Instead, I have to go weekly for laser treatments on my hands which have psoriasis. The treatments burn the callus layers of skin off allowing me to use my hands. For my depression and anxiety, I have medication which allows me to function. I am 48 years old and I'm healthier than many of my friends. We cannot afford to end ACA. It is wrong. This is Cassidy and Graham's ego trip. Please CG Bill has no rules that states CANNOT dip into the money & use it for other items. There are no rules forbidding cuts to the money for healthcare. The most vulnerable in society are affected by the bill. The disabled and the elderly and vets who normally live on limited income. Why is it ok for this bill to discriminate against us? We need a bipartisan solution or the GOP will own this disaster including the unemployment this bill will create. Reduction of state funding cuts PP, rural hospitals leading to medical staff losing their jobs and communities will lose hospitals, Drs, & nurses. Lynette Bech

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Cozakos [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE! NO on Graham-Cassidy!

Please, we beg you!

I paid for every dime of my college education myself then I worked for 30 years in tech marketing - no stock windfalls, just a single income to cover Silicon Valley living expenses - and paid into Social Security every year since 1971.

I lost my job last November at the age of 64 and that was the deathknell for my career.

I am depending upon Social Security and Medicare to be there for me when I need it.

I beg you - please vote no on this heinous bill!!!

Thank you,
Pamela S. Cozakos
Burlingame CA 94010
Registered to vote in the County of San Mateo

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melanie Dickson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

To Whom it May Concern

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare and we benefited greatly for two years from the ACA. Without it, we would not have been able to afford health insurance and my husband's emergency appendectomy would have bankrupted us. Now, we pay full price for health insurance as well as our deductibles, and our monthly health care expenses run to \$1600 a month, which many families cannot afford. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The ACA is far from perfect but it is a step in the right direction to fixing our broken healthcare system. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

As a midwife, I am a healthcare provider for growing families. Universal healthcare protects our most vulnerable tiny humans before they are even born. Anything else is unconscionable.

Thank you,

Melanie Dickson
Woodinville, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike & Michelle [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy comments

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to express our concerns and objections to the Graham-Cassidy proposal. This bill will cause stakeholders to lose protections, including protections for those with pre-existing conditions. The response that the states can decide what to do with pre-existing conditions is not an answer. The bill allows for charging exorbitant premiums to those with pre-existing conditions, and that is unacceptable. They must be guaranteed protection.

We also object to the massive cuts to Medicaid. Medicaid covers some of the most vulnerable populations, including disabled children and the elderly. This also adversely affects schools who serve the children.

This bill is not good for the people of the United States, and it should not become law.

Regards,

Mike Steinkemper & Michelle Marshall
Scottsdale, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] m
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Graham/Cassidy COMMENT

To the Senate:

Allowing states to eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions and to end the requirements that insurers cover a set of essential health benefits including oral health services, prescription drugs, maternity care, and mental health care would be unconscionable and extremely short sighted.

Please take a more considered approach to the very serious issue of national health care insurance coverage. Your constituents deserve better than the Graham/Cassidy bill.

Patricia S. Brown

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marti [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: to CARE means to VOTE NO on Graham-Cassidy

Without more information, and without a CBO score, it would be reckless to assume that the Graham-Cassidy bill would not cause children and children with disabilities; parents and the parents of children with disabilities (regardless of age), those with disabilities and those with pre-existing conditions, to lose access to AFFORDABLE health care. Not only does the ACA currently provide affordable insurance and access to health care for 23 million people who previously did not have health insurance or affordable access to health care, but it also provides protections previously unavailable to those with work-based health insurance. (This includes all those who have such protection *whether or not they currently realize this fact.*) And if compassion isn't something you've incorporated into your political mind-set, please consider that among those who stand to lose health care coverage and/or protections provided by the ACA, every single person who will be negatively impacted by the repeal of the ACA are *your potential voters.*

Sincerely,

Marti Olsen-Mills.

p.s. Yes, the cost of my insurance DID increase this past year. But I am among those lucky enough to be able to afford the approximate \$55.00 I now pay for healthcare coverage under the ACA.

Marti Olsen-Mills, M.S.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Gorman [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidyHellerJohnson

Rumor has it that the Senate GOP plans to keep doing this 50 vote gutting of the ACA with different reconciliation bills. Just stop it. Stop it already. I deserve to have my Affordable Care Act health insurance. There is no back up, especially since you are plotting to take away the only back up for some: Medicaid.

This is not compassionate. It's brutal and cruel. You are telling me I am not human enough to have quality health care. One can only get quality health care IF ONE HAS QUALITY HEALTH INSURANCE. Doctors don't do this stuff for free. Medication isn't free either. Tests sure as hell aren't free.

I would go into the details of my life but that doesn't seem to make a difference to the Republican Party. You seem to think if you can destroy our health, we will be too weak to stop you from imposing a feudal, Putinist society on America. I would think the Little Lobbyists and all the other Americans with disabilities showing up at your doors would prove the wrongness of that assumption but apparently the GOP is too arrogantly nihilistic to see that.

I don't understand why one would enter politics in order to be cruel, mean, and nasty. Yet, here we are again with me and millions of my fellow Americans BEGGING our government to NOT kill us.

If you want to help, restore the ACA enrollment period to Nov 1st 2017-January 30th, 2018.

If you want to help, FUND THE ACA NAVIGATORS.

If you want to help, PAY the CSRs.

If you want to help, make sure HHS has made sure that healthcare.gov has full bandwidth for the ACA Enrollment period.

If you want to help, keep Secretary Price from sabotaging the ACA with a bs downtimes for healthcare.gov.

If you want to help, mandate that the ACA ad outreach be restored. HHS isn't refunding the fees it decided won't go to ads so where's that money going? Is it being burned on charter jets for Secretary Price?

If you want to help, do reinsurance. Alaska has done it, my State of Oregon has just done it.

If you want to help, don't let Pre-Existing Conditions and Essential Health Benefits ever be wiped out by any waiver.

If you want to help, fucking fund CHIP before September 30th. WHY ARE YOU HURTING CHILDREN?????!!!

Note: Bronze Plans are bad enough. Copper Plans are total bullshit.

Note: Women are Human. We didn't come from some damn rib. We are not your property to yank around as you please.

Exhaustedly, Anna Gorman

Portland, Oregon

Sunday, September 24th, 2017 at 11:10pm

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Stascak-Berkant [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on the Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello! I am very concerned that millions of Americans will suffer if the Graham Cassidy Bill is passed. I personally know folks who have seriously ill children that depend on Medicaid for nursing care, meds, feeding tube supplies, prescription foods, orthopedic devices, physical therapy and many more services and health items.

Not having Medicaid would financially destroy folks who are ill or have dependents with pre-existing conditions.
Please work towards a reasonable solution to help our most vulnerable citizens.

Vote no to the Graham Cassidy Bill because it's the right thing to do. Thank you for consideration.

Mary Stascak-Berkant
Wake Forest NC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teresa Blythe [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Rev Teresa Blythe
Phoenix AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: laurel schneider [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO Graham Cassidy

Please save #ACA. I'm 52 years old and was deemed UNINSURABLE on the individual market. I work in the film business and what I do is always freelance. I've NEVER EVER had employer health care and couldn't always afford it. How will I live another 4 decades without health care???

Laurel Schneider
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rob Wirtz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy health care bill

I do not have a lot money. I have had type-1 diabetes since I was child. I have heart disease- cardiomyopathy, heart arrhythmia, atrial fibrillation. I have an implanted defibrillator. Medicaid expansion has literally saved my life. I cannot afford medication and the medical care I need without it. Please do not repeal the ACA. Please work with Democrats to fix its problems.

Thank you,
Robert Wirtz
Palm Springs, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Testimony - Graham Cassidy bill

Hello,

[REDACTED]
Lora Kelly Lacina, 58 years old
Katherine Mary Lacina, 25 years old
Registered Voters living at
[REDACTED]
St. Joseph, MO Miss. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Human souls...each of them could have been an image in a sonogram....worth something then, but not today, if they have pre-existing conditions, if they are disabled, or if they are old! Look at the sonogram images at the end of our testimony! Beautiful babies!

We met teaching school, fell in love, got married in a church in 1990. We had then, and have always had since then, health insurance through the school Charles taught in. Then, we had four children; the first, Katherine, born in 1992. Our youngest, Kristine, was born with Down syndrome in 1997. One and a half years after our youngest was born, our oldest child, Katherine, started falling down for "no reason." This was in 1998, when she was about six years old. She, Katherine, was diagnosed at that time with epilepsy. Katherine was medicated for seizures. Over the next several years her cognition (what she was able to learn and how she was learning), and her fine and gross motor abilities all started declining.

Katherine was later diagnosed with Unverricht-Lundborg Syndrome, a very rare form of neurodegenerative type of epilepsy. Neurodegeneration means her brain is dying. It is slow regression. Unverricht-Lundborg is caused by two recessive genes - one from each parent. We neither one knew we were carriers. She has 100's of seizures a day...atonic and myoclonic seizures. (Atonic means she just goes limp and falls. Myoclonic means her body or limbs just repeatedly and quickly. Neither usually last more than a few seconds. But the falls are dangerous and the jerks are very tiring and debilitating.)

We had no prenatal diagnoses for either of our daughters. Nor, would we have ever entertained the idea of an abortion had we had prenatal diagnoses! All of our children were beautiful images in their sonograms, who pro-life believers would have said, had every right to life! We believe they should still have that right to life even with the diagnoses they have today.

The first two years of Katherine's life, we decided we would pay for everything on our own, because her needs did not seem to be as great as Kristine's. But, Katherine's medical costs - copays and deductibles ran us to \$80,000 in medical debt in the first two years. We were contemplating ways to feed and clothe our children. We were eating as thriftily as possible, gardening, canning and freezing our own food, with all wearing hand-me-down clothes, including underwear. We were not going on vacations. We were driving used vehicles with many miles on them. We were being "adopted" by church friends, not because we asked for help, but because others saw our need. We had no savings. We were told to get a divorce in order to be able to qualify for government help. We stayed married. We asked for government help. We started paying off the \$80,000, and now, nearly have it paid off after all these years. We would have been bankrupt repeatedly, without Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income. Our employer-offered group health insurance is the primary insurance. Missouri Medicaid (MoHealthnet) pays as secondary insurer and for those items not covered by our primary insurance.

Katherine's medications have caused her to have brittle bones. She's had 28 broken bones from falling during seizures. She depends on a wheelchair for mobility to keep her safe from falls. Her auditory and optic nerves are dying - meaning she is having decrease in her vision and hearing which will only grow worse. She has developed dysphagia due to neurodegeneration, meaning she is having difficulty swallowing which will also regress over time. She is dying a slow and agonizing death and she knows it. She is a trooper. She is faithful and strong. She laughs and is an inspiration to

others. She wanted to become a marine biologist....she read chapter books before Kindergarten. She was very smart, but cannot read for herself very well any more. She depends on us and personal assistants to get out of bed, go to the bathroom, shower, and sometimes we even have to feed her, because seizures cause her to drop her utensil and she cannot get food to her mouth. Personal assistants are paid for entirely by Medicaid dollars. (60% of Missouri's Medicaid money comes from the federal government.)

Kristine, who was born with Down syndrome was placed in Missouri's First Steps program for early help with speech, physical therapy, and family education paid for through our personal insurance first, and then, Missouri Medicaid (MOHealthnet) paid as secondary insurance. Kristine was later diagnosed with Autism and Selective Mutism, too. Due to Down syndrome Kristine also has mild to moderate hearing loss, cognitive delays, developmental delays, and she has physical issues that cause difficulty with walking distances. She has behavior issues and "major shyness," as some people say due to the Autism and Selective Mutism. She needs 24 hours supervision for safety as she will elope or roam away and has not learned about personal safety. She can read and enjoys writing fun stories. Due to hearing loss and physical issues caused by Down syndrome, she is very hard to understand when she does choose to speak. She has a fun sense of humor and loves to cook. She also has personal assistants who help her with showering, transportation to shop for groceries using the list she creates, and with performing her household chores.

Our other two children are gifted and talented. One was a National Merit Scholar who attended the University of Oklahoma graduating Magna Cum Laude with a double major in mathematics and physics. He is now a teaching assistant and earning a PhD. at North Carolina State University. The other lives and works in St. Louis, Missouri, as a teacher's assistant at Giant Steps an alternative school for children who have Autism. They are both wonderful, intelligent, hard working, tax paying citizens. They were not allowed to have jobs, savings accounts for school or any other reason, because any money they earned Social Security said would have to go towards their sisters' care....not to be saved for education. Sad, but true. So, we decided they needed to be the best students they could be and they should focus on building resumes with volunteer hours, church and Scouts, instead of holding teenage jobs.

Today, we are faced with a dilemma in healthcare....a nightmare....a disaster flying at us full speed and head on. If the Graham Cassidy bill passes, our state will allow insurance companies to charge exorbitant prices for pre-existing conditions.....Katherine's condition is so rare...all we can assume is insurance companies will be allowed to charge us an even higher premium than they will charge for mere epilepsy. Kristine's insurance will charge more for Down syndrome, Autism, and the Selective Mutism. Charles has a hereditary heart condition which will also cause higher premiums. I, Lora, have high blood pressure...the doctor told me to reduce my stress level at home.....you are allowed to laugh here! That really is funny! I could also try to lose a little bit of weight which would help the blood pressure and perhaps, that would keep me from having a pre-existing condition! So, at night we lay awake and worry about the debt we will again begin to incur just due to increase premiums and what will happen if we cannot pay these premiums.

We lay awake at night and worry about what to do when Medicaid is further cut away each year and what will happen when it's completely gone in ten years. On July 1, Governor Greitens made a cut to in-home self-directed supports (personal assistants) for senior citizens and people with disabilities in Missouri. We lost over ten hours of help a week with that cut. More cuts are coming. We are frightened what will happen to our daughters, to our other children, to people all over the United States who will lose health care, if this bill passes. In visiting with our Senator Blunt's staff, they said these programs were created for families just like ours...families with education and jobs, who were eloquent just like us! Thank you! This discounts most every other family on these services and that is an atrocious attitude. 64% of the people on Medicaid in Missouri are healthy, school-aged children whose families cannot afford health insurance, whose adult family members may have low-paying jobs, whose adult family members qualify for an ACA policy...but, children are placed on Medicaid and not on the ACA policies. All these children will be without insurance should the Graham Cassidy bill pass. We will have a nation full of children who have no health care...a nation full of children who are too sick to attend school on a regular basis and who will statistically earn less money due to the lack of education and ill health. This does not serve our nation or make us stronger!

Let's talk about what this looks like only on a financial level. We hire nursing students as personal assistants. We work around their school and clinical schedules. So, we have more than one student hired at the same time. On July 1, with the Governor's cuts, we lost the hours of one entire employee for the year....that means this student is no longer paying taxes, federal or state. This student does not have money for tuition, textbooks, food, rent or gasoline for their car. What a loss financially.....now multiply that by the number of healthcare jobs lost in the US, if the Graham Cassidy bill passes! Statistics say that this will affect 1/6 of the economy in our nation! This affects 2/3 of the nursing homes in the United States, rural areas such as ours will be more adversely affected, by these cuts to Medicaid. Rural hospitals will be hit the hardest by the cuts to Medicaid.

Lifetime caps are inhumane and are going to be reinstated if the Graham Cassidy bill passes. Block grant funding, privatization, per capita, waivers all take away Medicaid dollars from the very people they were meant to serve. Block

grant funding will pit people against each other as they ask for money from a limited pocket for their healthcare. We don't legally condone dog fighting, but we will pit people in competition against each other in desperation to fund their healthcare. Block grant funding does not take into consideration the increasing costs of medical care...which is about 3% increase each year. These caps, waivers, grants, etc. also do not take into consideration that the insurance pool may increase with new people with the same amount of funds to share. You would need to have one person die for every person added to the pool to come out even. You would also need to at the very least leave the funding amount alone, not have a plan to decrease the funds through the next ten years. No guarantee there, right? So, how about the 14 year old on the football field who is hit and has brain damage? He joins the pool. How about the premature baby who reaches the lifetime cap prior to ever leaving the hospital for the very first time? No healthcare for this child ever in his or her entire life. What about the person who is 38 years-old and has a stroke? No insurance after the stroke. No speech therapy to rehabilitate the speaking or eating habits this person needs to go back into the workforce. All these are live human beings who are going to be wasted with block grant, per capita, lifetime caps, waivers, etc. These people have souls. They are lives worth saving...when they were in a sonogram and even now, today, when they need our compassion and our respect. We are not a heartless nation. We are a nation who cares and who helps one another.

As we watch this unfold, we cannot help but feel more anger when we hear that our legislators are benefitting from this mess as they accept money in donations from insurance companies, from big pharma, from the wealthiest of our citizens who want some type of control and who can afford to pay for it. All while we are worried about paying for medicine and doctors appointments that keep our daughters as healthy as possible and alive.

Charles worked faithfully teaching school for 28 years, retiring with health insurance and retirement. I, Lora, would have taken so much time off for medical appointments that no one would have kept me on as a teacher. We had 3 to 15 appointments in a week's time every week for our daughters. We are not low-life individuals who are living off the government and waiting for a hand out. We contribute by volunteering at church, in Scouts, in our community. We are taxpayers. We are voters!

Let's talk for a minute about fraud. We are evaluated very thoroughly prior to receiving services, as is everyone receiving services. Doctor's diagnoses, evaluations, checkups are all referred to as we are evaluated for acceptance into programs. We are inspected, monitored several times a year, we are reviewed, and our daughters' services are reviewed and evaluated by more than one layer of government agency repeatedly. We were even called by social security on a yearly basis to ask if our daughter still had Down syndrome - every year....Down syndrome does not go away, you know? You can laugh here, because we do. Sad, but true! One must look for the humor or, lose one's mind through this journey! Oooops! Another pre-existing condition right there! Let's talk a little further about fraud.....The day our daughter was in the hospital having her three front teeth removed from the jaw that was just broken from falling during a seizure, the state worker (service coordinator) insisted they needed to see her, face-to-face for her quarterly monitoring. Katherine had to look at her and speak to her with bloody gauze hanging out of her mouth while leaning forward to keep from aspirating the blood from the surgery. We were afraid to let her lie back against the pillows in her bed, because her body forgets how to spit and swallow, especially when she is overly stressed and having more seizures. She had a broken jaw and a bruised face and did not want to see anyone face-to-face...she had no front teeth and was embarrassed. Yet, she had to undergo a "fraud check" at that moment! Thanks to the wonderful inefficiency of privatization of services in our state....we have inexperienced service coordinators who don't know how to do their job effectively and this particular one did not remember she needed the monitoring appointment until the deadline was looming. Within 24 hours...so, we had no choice, but to subject our daughter to the review. She was crying, tired, in pain, seizing more than usual, and begging that no one see her. But, we needed to prove we were not committing fraud and had to allow the visit. Our daughter is still angry about that....wouldn't you be upset, too?

Without pre-existing protection, without Medicaid dollars, people will go without healthcare; they will wait longer before going to the doctor. Some will never go and die early due to health conditions never diagnosed during regular check ups. Some will wait until the problem is exacerbated and much more costly. When they show up in the ER or doctor's office their inability to pay, because they don't have money, will be shared among the people who do have money as the hospital costs will need to rise in order to meet the deficit they experience "giving care away to the poor." Medical care is always more costly after a patient waits for care!

Let's talk for a second about Planned Parenthood. Abortion is terrible, it is death and it is very sad. If we remove funds from Planned Parenthood, we will have more pregnant women due to lack of education and lack of birth control choices. This means we will also have more babies born to mothers with lower incomes who will go without prenatal care increasing the chance of more babies born with special needs. This means more babies born who will be living in poverty conditions...another mouth to feed....another person on food stamps, if that program is not also gutted entirely. Human lives will be lost again!

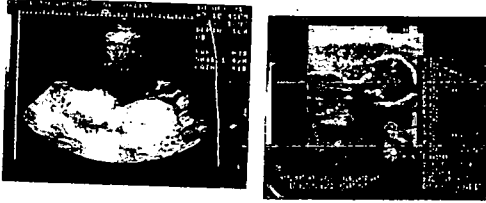
We have an insurance system in the ACA that took more than 5 years to create in a bipartisan effort. Turning this over to the states and expecting them to have a working valid system set up within 24 months is unrealistic and the recipe for a disaster! Take what works in the ACA and fix the rest. Repair it. Or, go to universal healthcare for all.....this does work in other countries. Medicare for all could work. But, the Graham Cassidy bill will not work! We value human lives - all lives, no matter their ability, their skin color, their religion, their age, their gender, their sexuality, no matter. We need health care in this country that will not kill people. We need healthcare that helps keep our people alive and healthy as long as possible, because the image in a sonogram is just as valuable as the person after they are born! We need health care for everyone that is affordable and accessible, because we are America and keeping every citizen as healthy as possible keeps America strong!

We welcome your questions. We welcome your thoughts. We pray for you as you make this decision!

Sincerely,

Charles, Lora, Kelly, Kristine, Stephen, Caroline Lacina

[REDACTED]
Saint Joseph, MO Missouri 64507 -8084
[REDACTED]



...These are our precious daughters. Their lives are worth as much today as they were when they were in a sonogram! Vote not on Graham Cassidy! Look down further!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Timothy Behary [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson

Dear Senators,

Vote no on the Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson -- this is a terrible piece of legislation -- and you know it. Support a bipartisan effort to fix our existing healthcare laws, lower costs and give more people access to healthcare. The campaign promise made by most of you all (those who don't have safe seats), was to replace the ACA with SOMETHING BETTER --not repeal and replace with something worse. This bill is not better. It's snake oil. Fulfill your promise and improve things for a change rather than trying to destroy the lives of Americans.

Sincerely,

Tim Behary



... ..

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Juliana L'Heureux [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy unethical Medicaid caps

1. If there are caps put on Medicaid based on a state's population, that means people who need care will be put on waiting lists.
2. Neonatals and newborns will have to wait for somebody to die to receive Medicaid eligibility.
3. When a state loses population (and several are already in a zero growth trend), then the Medicaid money will be reduced, even if the needs in the state are great- like Native Americans or a large number of discharged military who are in transition to civilian life and not yet employed.
4. Putting state caps on Medicaid will force ethical dilemmas for health providers who will be giving care based on eligibility rather than on medical necessity.
5. Medicaid caps prevent state's from addressing unforeseen population needs. Pandemics will put populations at risk of choosing who gets life saving technologies.
6. Poor people will be subject to even more health care rationing.
7. It's wrong to shift health money. Graham-Cassidy pays for flimsy pre-existing conditions coverage by imposing caps on needy populations, like newborns, frail elderly, neurologically impaired, mentally ill, disabled and the chronically ill. Medical ethics will be upended, providers will be forced into examining "death panels" to determine eligibility based on population numbers, rather than on need.

Juliana L'Heureux

One Turkey Run
Topsham Maine 04086

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

www.mainewriter.com

<https://www.facebook.com/juliana.lheureux>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SHERIDAN D AND KRIS SCHWARK [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Senate Finance Committee,

Please give an unequivocal No to passing the Graham-Cassidy-Johnson-Heller bill which will cut Medicaid, impose Medicaid per capita caps, and weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions such as our daughter, Elizabeth (Beth) Schwark. We do not see this as a party issue. Rather, it is a *humanitarian* issue. Medicaid not only provides her with a better quality of life, it sustains her life.

Our daughter is a thirty-three year old young woman with both spunk and a love for life, despite the fact that she near daily subjected to the physical assault of her own body. Beth's primary disorder is Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome, a seizure disorder in which she exhibits a full spectrum of seizure types. The disorder began when Beth was only four years old; during her early years she would log up to as many as 400 seizures in a day. After the introduction of a variety of different treatments and therapies she currently experiences fewer, approximately 50, seizures a month. As a result of the disorder itself and the long term treatment of Lennox-Gastaut, Beth has acquired additional diagnoses such as cognitive delay, gastrointestinal issues leading to the necessity of daily enteral feeding, and idiopathic premenopausal osteoporosis to name only a few. Each of these conditions has required additional treatment and care plans.

As Beth is medically fragile, a reduction in her health care and services places her at extreme risk. Beth must be provided with direct supervision 24 hours per day and her condition can and has changed in a single, unexpected moment to one that is life threatening. Under current Medicaid benefits her care provided through programs such as IRIS is substantially lower, allowing her to stay in her home and avoid costly institutional/nursing home care.

Please slow down this process, make it transparent, and include the disability community in any laws that would make changes to Medicaid.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service.

Sincerely,

Kris and Sheridan Schwark
[REDACTED]

Irma, WI 54442

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jeff teitelbaum [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposa.docx

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Full Name: Jeff Teitelbaum [REDACTED] S Seattle WA 98118

Reject this attempt to repeal the current Affordable Care Act only to replace it with this half-baked, desperate plan. It is so obviously a hail mary attempt to salvage a republican win at any cost that it is an embarrassment to that party.

My brother is currently in a hospital, scheduled to undergo back surgery. If the current effort becomes law, he would, to my understanding, his surgery would not have been covered by health insurance. He is a free-lance worker who must pay for his own coverage, and he would have been left high and dry by this new plan. This would be a very common occurrence, according to analysts.

Please do better than this.

Jeff Teitelbaum

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dr. Meredith Murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller. It is a dangerous bill that would cause over 30 million people to lose their health insurance, puts vital coverage (such as that for prenatal care and mental health care) at risk, destroys Medicaid, and endangers vulnerable members of our population. Please reject this bill!

Sincerely,
Meredith Murphy
Los Angeles, CA

--
Meredith C. Murphy, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist (PSY 24473) Psychotherapy for Children, Adolescents, and [REDACTED] Los Angeles, CA 90027 [REDACTED] 323-636-2466 email [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] web: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheila Garland [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

My husband is a Type 1 diabetic diagnosed at the age of 17. He counts on Insurance to stay alive. How are you going to guarantee he has affordable access to insulin/syringes/test strips/lancets? Is he a preexisting condition or a victim of an insidious childhood disease?

Sheila Garland

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Long [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bills

Our ACA needs tweaking so our citizens have access to high quality care. Do not repeal ACA. Please do not vote for graham Cassidy. We need real solutions not further barriers to good healthcare.

Thank you,
Lauren Long

Savor life

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: B L MURPHY [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Act

This bill is not about health care...it's about the president's ego.
Respectfully, please do not vote in favor this 'health care' bill. It is disastrous for so many, many families. And Alaska will not benefit. And they're not telling the whole truth about pre-existing conditions, about maternity care, about the ultimate demise of Medicaid.
My daughter is enlisted in Medicaid. It gives me a modicum of reassurance that she will be treated should she be in an accident or exhibit a disease. If she didn't have Medicaid coverage and she needed expensive treatment, it would decimate my retirement savings, making it necessary to throw me out of my home. Please, Senator, refuse to do this to the American people.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carlo Medina [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:08 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.

Carlo Medina
Santa Monica CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amie Reno [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Senator Hatch and Senator Wyden,

This bill will be detrimental to many citizens of our country, including some of the most vulnerable: seniors in long-term care, and premature infants. The families of both groups often depend on Medicaid to pay the bills to keep their loved ones alive and comfortable.

Another vulnerable group that will be adversely affected is that composed of people with pre-existing conditions, whose insurance costs could become unaffordable. Imagine being a cancer survivor, and having to drop insurance coverage while worrying about a relapse. The provision in the bill that will insurance companies to charge more for those with pre-existing conditions could also affect people with more common conditions, such as heart disease, high blood pressure, & diabetes.

The bill will cause many poor and middle-class Americans to lose their health coverage, just when they need it most. It should not advance out of committee. While the ACA needs improvement, this bill is "throwing the baby out with the bathwater" -- there must be better solutions to the issues than potentially slashing health care coverage for millions of Americans.

Thank you,

Amie Reno
[REDACTED]

Durham, NC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zi Hua [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject GHC

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Warmly,
Don Allen
Mount Vernon, Texas

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Geoffrey Wossum [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: GCH Comment 2017-09-25.docx

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

Geoffrey Wossum
[REDACTED]
Murphy, TX 75094

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

As you consider repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) with Graham-Cassidy or any similar, it is important for you to understand what the ACA has meant to your constituents, and how Graham-Cassidy would hurt. Here are some details about our 10-year-old son, Ian:

- Diagnosed with autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).
- Receives occupational therapy (OT) to help with motor and sensory issues.
- Receives neuropsychology sessions to help with emotional skills, impulse control, and depression.
- Both occupational therapy and neuropsychology are currently covered as essential health benefits (EHB) under the ACA.
- **\$14,000:** Additional out-of-pocket our family would incur if these services were no longer covered as EHBs. This includes any bill that removes EHB coverage, provides a mechanism for states to waive EHB coverage, or the Health and Human Services secretary removing habilitative services or mental health services from the list of EHBs.
- **\$5,510:** Potential insurance premium surcharge for autism if pre-existing condition protections are removed, either in the bill or through state waivers.
- Yearly or lifetime would impact the services he could receive in the future
- Received free early childhood school (ECS) special education from ages 3 to 5, where he worked on his pragmatic speech skills. Continued receiving speech services in elementary school, as well as other special education services such as an Individualized Education Program (IEP), an aide to help him and other special education students in the classroom, and emotional and social skills sessions.
- Many special education programs in public schools are funded by Medicaid. Cuts to Medicaid will reduce the services available to kids like Ian in the future.
- Received pragmatic speech therapy from ages 21 months to 3 years through ReadyStart and the Texas Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) program.
- ReadyStart has already been shut down due to state budget cuts.

Thanks to the improvements from the services he has already received, Ian is now thinking about where he wants to go to college and what he wants to study. In order to fulfill that dream, he still needs more services to help him lead an independent and productive life. For instance, thanks to OT he has mastered tying his shoes, but we're still working on buttons and zippers. Graham-Cassidy could force us to choose between services he needs to be able to go college, and the tuition he needs to attend college.

Ian is just one of the more than an estimated 100,000 children in Texas with autism. Children who stand to lose services, and along with it their futures, if Graham-Cassidy becomes law.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat & Karen Ryan [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to ask and plead that the Graham-Cassidy not be passed. I understand that the GOP wants to repeal the ACA, but at what cost to the citizens of this country? The Graham-Cassidy is so flawed, but that doesn't seem to matter; the only goal seems to be to erase everything that Obama did to help our citizens. My sister is disabled, lives on a small disability retirement, and is responsible for finding her own health insurance. Who will insure her if you succeed? She has disabilities, and ongoing health issues. Does anyone care? I work with children who live in poverty, of parents who have to scrape together funds just to feed their children. If they get ill, who will treat them? I volunteer at a camp that serves pediatric oncology patients. Cancer treatment is very expensive, families of these children face indescribably difficult choices as they sacrifice and borrow to treat their children. Accurate information on this plan is not forthcoming. It is apparent, it is clear, that the Graham-Cassidy plan is not in the best interests of American people.

You represent us all, not just wealthy white men.

To vote yes on Graham-Cassidy is to acknowledge that your driving force is not protecting and representing the American people. You make it clear your concerns are NOT about the welfare of the American people, but to win. To destroy admittedly imperfect plans, because Obama was involved. It is so clear that most of the GOP does not care about what is best for the people. It is so important for Democrats and Republicans to work together for the benefit of the American people. Isn't that why you ran for office in the first place? To act on party lines rather than evaluating what is actually the moral thing for humans to do is to tell us once again that you don't actually care about the people who are depending on you. You don't seem to care, but many of us do. I worry every day about those who will be impacted by this plan. What will become of them? Your job is to work together for the sake of our country. Seek to work across party lines to improve the ACA. Please, be strong and do not give in to bullying and pass Graham-Cassidy.

Please bring a sense of hope back to the country.

Karen Ryan
Rockaway Beach, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Grenetz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Finance Committee,

I could go on and on about health care but I'll just say that this bill is not about helping all Americans to live their fullest lives like it should and that this bill should not include money for corporations or anything else.

Karen Grenetz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Ramon , California 94582

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christie Reid <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Aloha and thank you for considering my point of view. I am very concerned about the current bill under consideration to repeal the ACA. I am a low income senior citizen with pre-existing conditions and am very concerned that I am likely to lose my medicaid coverage as well as access to other services which are needed in treating my conditions. Without the health care coverage I currently have, I will be vulnerable to a complete lack of healthcare options. Many of my elder friends are also in a vulnerable condition and I know that millions across the United States will lose healthcare if this bill is allowed to pass.

Please, I urge you to work as a bi-partisan congress to refine the ACA and fix the problems rather than repealing it in it's entirety for a bill that will cost millions their needed healthcare and benefit the wealthy. This GOP plan is deeply flawed, much more so than the ACA.

I appeal to your good sense and consideration for those who really need healthcare to survive. It's time for Universal Coverage for all Americans.....we deserve it and it would help correct a flawed for-profit medical care system.

Thank you,

Susan C.Reid

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacy Adams [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I implore 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. Prior to the ACA my pre-existing conditions made me uninsurable. Please do not doom me to an unaffordable high risk pool. The ACA gave people like me the amazing gift of knowing we could purchase insurance at regular cost and not be rejected. You can't imagine that kind of relief. It makes me physically sick to think I'm going to once again be forced to fill out forms about my health and pray that the insurance companies allow me access to plans I can afford. There are millions of people like me. Don't do this to us.

Sincerely, ✉

Stacy Adams
Florissant, MO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Oliver [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I strongly oppose Graham-Cassidy. I rely on comprehensive affordable health care for my eye care, respiratory difficulties, thyroid dysfunction, and high blood pressure. Because of these health issues and the fact that I am 78 years old, I oppose any repeal of the ACA. I depend on Medicare and a supplemental policy for my health care. My grandson aged 19 depends on Medicaid as he recovers from a life threatening auto accident. My premiums are barely affordable now. I strongly urge the senators to mount a bipartisan effort to fix the problems with ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Judith Oliver [REDACTED]

Olympia WA 98506-2606
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Wang [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy

And I just read the updated text. Good Lord, this is madness. What is wrong with people? Please register my even more vehement opposition and distaste.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Jessica Wang" <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sep 25, 2017 1:31 AM
Subject: OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy
To: <GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov>
Cc:

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: DSJ MS [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't dismantle the ACA

I am a voter from Washington State. I'm female, over 50, and have a developmentally disabled niece who need will need complex medical care for the rest of her life. I also come from a state that will be one of the biggest revenue losers if Medicare is transitioned to a block grant program. Half of our Medicare recipients are children. Please keep Obamacare and work transparently and carefully to make minor revisions to address specific issues. Please reject sweeping, harmful, and economically destabilizing rollbacks of core elements of the ACA.

Best regards,
Megan Smith
[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA 98199

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Ervin 
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Susan Ervin
Orting, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan Householder [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:03 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.

I fear for my elderly mother, my intellectually-challenged brother and all his friends.

Joan Householder
Albion, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan diRende [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: "First do no harm" -my opposition to Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

There's a reason the Hippocratic Oath has endured as the foundation of medicine for over 2000 years. We all want health care to improve, but rushing in with last-minute rewrites and "fixes" is too careless when the lives of millions is on the line.

The Senate needs to follow the process in good order for such major legislation. We need a CBO score, open debate, and public commentary before any vote should take place.

Susan diRende

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Grahm Cassidy - no help for preexisting conditions

My 27 year old son who suffers from PAN ulcerative colitis recently lost his ACA insurance coverage due to missing 2 premium payments in July and August. He tried to pay the 2 missed payments when he realized the automatic withdrawls had failed. He was not allowed back into the ACA marketplace until open enrollment in January 2018. He is self employed as a new realtor and had no other option for insurance in Virginia.

His colitis medication, Lialda is \$1,200.00 per month. So with no insurance, he chose not to get it. His body flared up severely without the medicine and after not eating for 3 weeks, constant diarrhea and loosing 25 lbs, he ended up in the ER almost in heart failure. All because he had no way to afford his medicine.

Now he is carrying the debt for 2 ER visits including bloodwork, CT scans, EKGs and many more medications. He expects a bill in the 10s of thousands of dollars.

Hopefully he can find a way to cover the cost of his medication and carry all this debt until he recovers his health enough to work again. He will have to find a new job with insurance that will be affordable. Thankfully at this time under the ACA, he should have access to insurance that will still cover his preexisting conditions.

Please consider this as you vote on the Grahm-Cassidy bill. We need protection for people with pre-existing conditions that will ensure no one dies because they don't have access to affordable health care.

Theresa Ramsay-Clark

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

Burke, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Mulroy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:01 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.

Juliana Mulroy
Granville, OH 43023

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diana Linderoth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Senate Finance Committee,

Please vote NO on the Graham
-Cassidy bill. I am both a physician AND a patient with a pre-existing condition and I oppose this legislation from both viewpoints. As an independent physician, I am not an employee and therefore purchase my health coverage on the exchange. Without the ACA, I would currently be uninsurable. Please improve upon the legislation already in place. Do not undermine it. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Diana Linderoth MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joe Savage <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Joe Savage
St. Paul, MN

Sent from my iJoe

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: GLG <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed Graham-Cassidy Bill

Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Gina Greenlaw. I reside in Portland, Oregon. I'm writing to you today to express my grave concern that the Graham-Cassidy Bill is being considered for passage.

Since 2003, I have been living with Multiple Sclerosis. I'm very, very grateful that my employer (Multnomah County Library) provides me with adequate health insurance so that I may receive care as needed. This care allows me to continue being a productive member of society (paying your salary with my taxes, even). Were I to lose my job, it would be a very real prospect that a future employer's health care plan (if it were even offered) could deny me insurance coverage as I would be categorized as having a pre-existing condition.

It simultaneously saddens, frightens, and horrifies me that in this day and age we are still having this discussion regarding health care coverage for all. We need universal care, now.

When the Founders wrote of "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" do you **not** believe they would have consider being healthy and receiving competent, complete health care part of that "happiness" motto? It is merely a jazzy line?

No, it is our inalienable right to receive the necessary health care so that we, as citizens, can move forward in being productive in all aspects of our lives and contributing to the greater good.

It boggles the mind that most Congressional members have never considered safeguarding our country's most valuable asset: its citizens.

Every other nation in the developed world provides health care coverage to its peoples. The U. S., however, has allowed big business to finagle ways to literally make a buck from people's misery.

We are better than this. We are a moral people. Our representatives have been HIRED to do a job in advocating for our interests, the Electorate's, not those of Party or Corporate Citizens.

Will the legacy of those who are championing this current abomination be such that they will be remembered as little more than "yes men" working to benefit the few rather than the many?

I demand that you do the right thing. Get on the right side of history.

This bill must not be brought into fruition.

Sincerely,

Gina L. GREENLAW
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lorna Breshears <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller Comments

I am appalled at how each attempt at repeal and replace is worse than the first. This latest version is unconscionably cruel and heartless. How dare the GOP congress treat the most vulnerable among us as a soccer ball, kicking us up and down the field at its whim. Stop it. Instead, begin a bi-partisan effort to improve upon the ACA so that it works for everyone.

Congress is supposed to represent their constituents, not their campaign donors.

Do. Your. Job.

Lorna Breshears
Hillsboro, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Ivis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Brian Schatz; Outgoing, Hirono (Hirono)
Subject: Latest heinous version of tRumpcare

Dear US Senate Finance Committee,

"Trumpcare or the current version know as the graham cassidy bill is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible.

Far more healthcare organizations/professionals and citizens are opposed than in favor of this monstrosity.

Holding a vote without regular process, hearings, bipartisan debate and a CBO score is nothing short of shameful and is a direct assault on democratic processes.

If the Koch brothers withholding donations has even a small part in this being rushed through, every person who votes yes is a traitor.

Any members of Congress with conscience, heart and integrity must vote no.

Stop the madness. You can do better and the American people deserve better than this.

NO on Graham Cassidy. Just no.

Barb Ivis
Kailua, Hawaii

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: michael mraz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy Bill

I am a voting Alaskan Physician. I work in Anchorage Alaska and am opposed to the Graham Cassidy Bill trying to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Please do not repeal the ACA and oppose the bill.

Enormous numbers of Americans health and lives depend on the health care services they receive through the ACA. Repealing it it would be devastating.

There may be things about the ACA that can be improved upon, but repealing it is a terrible plan.

Sincerely,

Michael [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steven Marzuola <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

This is to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

After a major health emergency, I lost my job and my private health insurance premium would have cost over \$2000 per month. I went without coverage for years. When I tried to get it, every health insurance company would decline, because of my "previous condition". Some of them hung up on me, one of them laughed out loud.

The ACA has made it possible for me to buy affordable coverage and without a government subsidy.

The new bill would strip away this protection. It would worse for people who can't afford to purchase insurance at almost any price.

I know many other people in my position.

TECHLANGUAGE

Steven Marzuola

[REDACTED]
Houston Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise McCarthy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:58 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.

It's clear that Graham-Cassidy-Heller violates Section 8, Part 1, of the Constitution whereas taxes, imports, excises should be spread equally among each state. Give it up. WWJD, sheesh.

Denise M. McCarthy
Etters, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michele Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

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

Date of Hearing: September 25, 2017

Full Name: Michele C. Smith

Address: [REDACTED]

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my horror at effects of the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. This proposal will hurt so many people throughout the country by cutting funds to states that have lowered number of people without insurance. The cuts to Medicaid are unbelievable and irresponsible. The states are not equipped for the massive transfer of responsibility that this proposal makes. It will inject chaos into the insurance markets and make the cost of insurance go up for everyone. I am disgusted that anyone in the Senate would consider voting for legislation that affects so much of our economy *without a score from the CBO!* This proposal is worse than the others that preceded it.

We have young adult children who are just starting their careers. One has a pre-existing condition, an autoimmune disease that will last a lifetime. Instituting lifetime caps for coverage condemns those with pre-existing conditions to a lifetime of anxiety and eventually death. Is this what you want for our country? Our second adult child is still on our retiree health insurance for a few years, but then what? The impact of ripping apart the ACA on the entrepreneurial drivers of our economy will be a huge negative. When people can buy affordable insurance, they can start their own businesses and grow the economy. But with all the uncertainty this proposal would inflict on health insurance markets, that engine of the economy will stall out.

No one in health care supports this bill. Which makes me wonder who is pressuring you to propose and pass such terrible legislation? If this is your idea of governing, by proposing cruel and hurtful legislation that will kill people when they lose their insurance, let me assure you that you will have failed if this passes. Healthcare is complicated in our country and requires much more thought than what you have produced. It's really shameful if this is the best you can do.

I urge you to withdraw this proposal to save all the people who rely on Medicaid: disabled people, elderly nursing home residents, young pregnant women and their children, etc. I remember all the hoopla about "death panels" when the ACA was being drafted. Your legislation is a death sentence.

Sincerely,
Michele C. Smith, Ph.D.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle Weger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A Personal Statement on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

As you hold your hearing today to try to understand how the Graham-Cassidy proposal for health care is likely to affect one-sixth of the American economy, I hope you will also consider how enactment of the proposal would affect the day-to-day personal economies of tens of millions of Americans. I offer my own situation and perspective as one fairly common example:

I work for a nonprofit organization that serves the poorest and most vulnerable residents of the San Francisco Bay Area. The vast majority of those served have incomes of no more than 125% of the Federal Poverty Level. The organization receives significant funding from federal, state, and local grants, though our funding level forces us to ration our services to the neediest who seek them. Among our mission objectives is to ensure access to adequate health care for people in poverty. I am deeply concerned about the effects of Graham-Cassidy on California's large population of poor Americans. The immediate redistribution of Medicaid funds away from California, followed by the eventual disappearance of Medicaid funding over a decade would leave millions without regular access to health care, forcing them to rely on much more expensive and less effective emergency medical systems.

On a more personal level, I also worry about my own health care future. I am fortunate to be able to participate in my company's solid, affordable HMO plan. But the White House and Congressional budget priorities, if enacted, may well reduce a significant portion of our funding. Not only would this prevent us from responding to a likely increase in demand for our services, as needy people scramble for disappearing resources, but it could limit the organization's ability to provide employee health care. More daunting is the possibility that my position might be eliminated. Nearing 50, I like most people my age, now have what insurers consider pre-existing conditions, and under Graham-Cassidy there is a very real possibility that I would not be able to afford an individual plan, if insurance were available to me at all.

In light of the potentially devastating effects of Graham-Cassidy, instead of passing this potentially detrimental bill, I urge Senators to return to bi-partisan efforts to repair flaws in the current health care system.

Sincerely,
Michelle Weger

cc:
Senator Kamala Harris
Senator Dianne Feinstein

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: T / S Jarmain <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:01 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.

The rural hospitals where I live will likely have to shut down leaving whole communities along the Oregon Coast without the critical needed.

Sandra Jarmain
Reedsport, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Campbell [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:55 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.

Kate Campbell
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary M [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham Cassidy bill

This is not healthcare, this is wealth care. We need single payer like every other developed nation. Do what's right for the people. This is a terrible bill and even the idiots calling for you to scrap (rather than fix) the ACA are not going to be happy either when their insurance gets more expensive or they lose it altogether.

Mary McDermott

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Casper <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: "Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal" - Statement for the Record

Statement for the Record
By Pamela Casper
27064 Meadowood Drive, Apartment 101, Wixom MI 48393

United States Senate Committee on Finance Hearing Titled:
"Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal"
Monday, September 25, 2017

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, and members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit a statement for the record regarding the September 25, 2017 hearing titled "Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal."

My name is Pamela Casper, and I am a resident of Wixom, MI. I'm writing to urge senators to oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal ("Graham-Cassidy"), which would harm me, other individuals with significant disabilities, senior citizens, and other individuals who have low incomes that need Medicaid.

This issue is important to me and other individuals who have significant disabilities because some crucial services are only covered by Medicaid. One of the services that is only covered by Medicaid is Assertive Community Treatment (ACT). ACT literally saved my life and helped me to continue to live in the community. ACT and other specialty mental health services have been instrumental in my recovery. I am now working part time.

I do have Medicare, but Medicare doesn't cover specialty mental health services such as Assertive Community Treatment. According to the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, "Despite the rates of serious mental illness among Medicare beneficiaries, the program does not offer the full array of mental health benefits that are effective in helping people recover from [serious] mental illnesses." "Therapy, medication management and partial hospitalization are covered, but other intensive services, such as psychiatric rehabilitation and case management, are not." "A limited mental health benefit package deprives beneficiaries of the mental health *services that are most needed to improve their functional health.*"

(www.bazelon.org/Where-We-Stand/Access-to-Services/Medicare.aspx)

Additionally, the Medicare monthly premium and the cost sharing amount is not affordable for me and other individuals with low incomes. For example, I could not have afforded to have the outpatient surgery that I had in June if I didn't have Medicaid. The cost sharing amount would have been \$521.

Please vote no on capping and block granting Medicaid dollars. The Graham-Cassidy bill would cut hundreds of billions of dollars from Medicaid. These caps will force states to ration care. This will threaten access to needed health care and to long-term home care services that allow older adults and people with disabilities to stay in their communities.

Independent estimates found that Graham-Cassidy would cut federal health care spending by \$4.15 trillion over the next 20 years. Billions of dollars would be cut from the traditional Medicaid program that has been in place since long *before* the ACA. These cuts multiply every year, with particularly deep cuts after 2024. Significant reductions for Medicaid funding will cause states to cut services and eligibility. This will put the health, independence, and quality of life for individuals with disabilities and seniors at significant risk.

Thank you for considering my story as you prepare to vote on Graham-Cassidy bill. I urge you to vote no on the bill to protect individuals and families from these devastating cuts. Our health and independence are in your hands.

Sincerely,

Pamela Casper

[REDACTED] Wixom MI 48393

[REDACTED]
pam.casper27@gmail.com

Cc: The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510
The Honorable Gary Peters
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy L Alar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

My 39 year old autistic son, Matt Ward, depends on Medicaid funded supports here in Wisconsin to continue living independently and maintain his supported employment. Matt has SEVERE communication challenges but he does work for the local library part time and has a small business selling math related art work. He is a self-taught origami expert. He pays taxes.

The proposed cuts in Medicaid funding would jeopardize his supported independence and require even more taxpayer money to maintain him in a more restrictive setting. I am getting older and will soon not be able to help him advocate for himself. It is critical that Medicaid funds continue to provide support to help him communicate so he can live and work in the community.

Nancy Alar
[REDACTED]
Cottage Grove, WI 53527
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teresa Vollmer [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:54 AM
To: gchcomments

Vote NO! on the disastrous and un-Christian Graham- Cassidy bill!!! us

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cliff Hillis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Hello-

My wife and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is clear that Donald Trump simply wants to do anything he can to dismantle Barack Obama's legacy, and that includes repealing the ACA. It has been a savior for my wife and I as we are both self employed and don't make a lot of money. The gov't need to work on making the ACA better, not killing it thus creating a greater quagmire of the entire health care system, while at the same time kicking tens of millions of people off of health care.

Please listen to the voice of the people!

Thank you for your time, and to reiterate, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely- Cliff Hillis

[REDACTED]
Phoenixville PA
19460
Love Not War
www.cliffhillis.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Janney-Schultz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

> PLEASE do not let this bill pass. I am the mother of an adult child with severe disabilities who depends on Medicaid for her health care and Medicaid Waiver for her daily support. I am also retired and have arthritis, a pre-existing condition, that would require me to pay more for my insurance under this plan.

>

> I implore you to continue with the parts of the ACA that worked and continue with the bi-partisan effort to fix the parts that need to be fixed.

>

> Thank you

>

> Ann Janney-Schultz

> [REDACTED]

> Roanoke, Virginia 24015-2322

> [REDACTED]

>

>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy Whitehill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please do not vote for this bill. It will be devastating to many American families. I am especially concerned about no guarantee that people with pre-existing conditions will be able to get affordable health care. I am also concerned about life-time caps on insurance coverage. I would urge legislators from both sides of the aisle to work together for the best possible solution to U.S. health care. This should not be about Republicans versus Democrats or about fulfilling campaign promises and re-election chances. It should be about quality health care for the American people.

Sincerely,
Wayne Whitehill

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Hayward [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do NOT repeal/replace the ACA! I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill and my story...

... starts with my sister and ends with me.

My sister was born with a genetic defect that caused her body to produce 10,000 times too much insulin. The only solution was to remove her pancreas as a baby. After over 30 operations over the course of her first year of life, they were successful and my sister grew up to be a wonderful person that I can't imagine my life without.

The downside to the 30+ operations was that even though my father had the best health insurance provided through his employer in 1973, my sister quickly surpassed her lifetime \$1,000,000 maximum lifetime benefit. The only way my sister was able to continue to receive healthcare was my family emptied all of our savings (including the college funds my father had started for all of us) and after becoming 'financial challenged' enough, we/my sister qualified for Medicaid.

THANK GOD FOR MEDICAID! My sister still needed care that surpassed yearly well visits and as she slowly became diabetic (no pancreas will do that!) Medicaid paid for her care and insulin. It still left a huge gap for other supplies like needles and swabs but we were able to keep her alive and didn't go utterly bankrupt.

Fast forward to my health the past two years - I have always been in shape, took great care of myself, and although my family has good health insurance via my husband's employer (Microsoft), we rarely needed anything beyond well visit care. A kid's ear ache here, a case of bronchitis that needed a course of antibiotics there...

I went in for my yearly mammogram in 2016 - right after having my yearly physical where my PCP said everything looked great - and was told I had a suspicious mass in my right breast. After many tests and diagnostic procedures, I was diagnosed with Stage III breast cancer.

I had chemo, surgery, radiation & chemo concurrently, then more chemo. I am luckily in remission.

But because the ACA removed lifetime caps, our family had no fear of bankruptcy. Because of the ACA, I was able to get my mammogram covered, which honestly I would probably have put off because my PCP said my health (other than the cancer!) was excellent.

The proposed bill would make a pre-existing condition like cancer jack our premiums insanely high, coverage would be unaffordable even if employer sponsored.

I want to see a bipartisan effort to fix the problems existing with the ACA but the proposed bill does NOT do that - it is a HUGE step backward in helping Americans with affording healthcare!

PLEASE, I BEG YOU, I IMPLOR YOU: DO NOT PASS THIS BILL!!

Your family may someday be in the same situation and I am happy to pay my taxes to make sure your family has healthcare coverage - please do not take ours away!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: linda wages [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote against the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

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

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Full Name: Linda Wages

Address: [REDACTED]

Greetings. I appreciate your taking the time to read my comments. I am writing with regard to the Graham/Cassidy bill in the Senate. As with previous Senate bills, this bill was crafted in secret, has not been fully vetted for its impact on citizens and states by the CBO and will not be by the time a vote is taken. It is not bi-partisan. It is not good healthcare for the American people. Let me tell you about several:

Paula, who was a speech therapist until MS took her ability to keep mentally focused away and also depleted her energy and stamina is now a volunteer support group leader for people with MS among other activities like knitting for premature babies whose families are destitute. She will suffer as will all those with chronic illnesses if Graham/Cassidy becomes law as Medicaid will be severely restricted and up to the states, which means those dependent on Medicaid cannot easily move about the country. I grew up during the time when private insurance varied in the extreme and when I began work as a social worker I met with families of children with Down's Syndrom or other disabling diagnoses, who could not move to better their circumstances through job advancement because the new state did not have the medical benefits that their child or one of the adults in the family needed.

Liz, who has suffered from CP since birth, would be one of those who would have already met her life-time deductible and would also have a pre-existing condition making insurance costs prohibitive for her. She lives along by virtue of the care she gets through Medicaid, uses public transportation that is handicapped accessible to tutor during the school year when she is not in such pain that she cannot leave home. Her medications are afforded by virtue of Medicaid and without them she would have constant strictures and pain. Minus Medicaid, she will die an earlier death. And if you knew her you would know what a loss that will be.

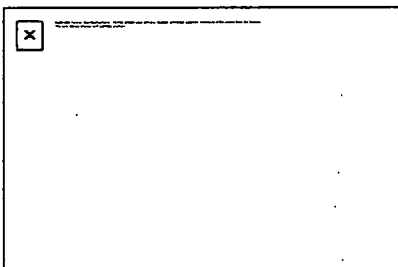
Meet my mother, who lived the last few years of her life in a nursing home because her care was beyond the capacity of my father, who tried his best to keep her at home until the end. I was very angry with Alzheimer's for taking my mother, but those who knew her and my dad in the nursing home, knew only my mother with Alzheimer's and one day a young woman who was visiting asked my father if she could take a picture of them because as a pregnant young woman in the early years of her marriage, she wanted to put that picture on her bathroom mirror to remind her of how she hoped the love in her marriage would shine when she and her husband grew old. My mother's value, nor the love she and my father shared, did not die nor diminish with Alzheimer's. Her ability to care for herself did and Medicare allowed her to die with dignity well cared for and allowed my father, though exhausted, to care for himself well enough to live another 10 years actively and with dignity.

Meet me, who has for the first time actual health insurance. Since I was in my own practice, I had no large employer to provide insurance and went without as many did during those years of private expensive insurance provided by employers and otherwise out of reach. I did without when I should have been able to get the supportive care to heal from a broken leg without later complications. To this day, I continue to suffer from those complications that were not treated in a timely way because I did not have insurance. However, now with insurance, I am able to get the treatment

needed, live with much less pain, can fully take care of myself into the future and continue to contribute to my community.

Meet Taylor, my cousin, who was born with Down's Syndrome and still lives at home with his mother. His father has since died and his mother who is retired is now fully responsible for his care. She is able through Medicaid to get in-home help and so can continue to be his primary caregiver and offer him a loving home, the only one he has ever known. Some couple of years ago Medicaid and Medicare allowed him to leave the state to get a particular operation to deal with the chronic debilitating pain he was experiencing in his back that nothing else resolved. I am happy to report that he often pain free now, goes to day care programs, has the best smile you've ever seen, is the sensitive, kind human he has always been.

None of this would be possible under Graham/Cassidy. I am asking that you vote against this bill and sustain the life giving stability of our healthcare system through the ACA. Yes, changes need to be made and a bi-partisan effort to address some of the cost issues that respects those Americans who need healthcare the most as well of those who have specific or special needs or just need to have a check up to avoid future much larger expenses. What we need is good cooperative work to make our insurance system be a good as our people. Graham/Cassidy is not that law. It will harm us all, our rural hospitals, our elders, our poor, our disabled. It is healthcare robbery, not a bill to support the American people.



I am perpetually awaiting the rebirth of wonder. Ferlinghetti

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan M. Kuhn [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

I am a breast cancer survivor. I lost coverage before my treatment was completed (prior to the ACA) and had to go two years with out followup care. That means no mammogram to be sure my cancer had not recurred, no help dealing with the disfigurement and muscle damage of surgery, and no physical therapy to regain strength.

When I became covered by the ACA I was able to have a mammogram and find out that I remained cancer free. It is too late to deal with the physical damage.

Being without insurance was a frightening experience. I don't wish it on anyone. Health care is a right, not a privilege to be doled out to the wealthy or the lucky.

Susan Kuhn
[REDACTED]
Burke, VA 22015

Susan M. Kuhn

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please stop!

Please stop this race to repeal Obamacare for the sole purpose of showing Obama and the Dems who is in charge. You are supposed to represent the PEOPLE. And many of the PEOPLE will DIE if you abolish the ACA and its subsidies and availability to people with pre-existing conditions. Please note that BREATHING anymore is a pre-existing condition.

Everyone needs to get together and FIX the ACA. Don't think you will EVER be able to kill it and then start anew. In the 20 or so years that might take people will suffer and die, those that live will go bankrupt. Voters will remember that.

Jamie Coughlin, Lynn Haven, FL (who would be dead or homeless (and soon dead) without Obamacare)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Lechette [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

Wanting to not die shouldn't be something reserved for the privileged with money and healthcare. Everyone deserves to be healthy and have access to healthcare to stay that way. Babies born with health issues shouldn't get a death sentence because of lifetime caps or waiting periods. My sister shouldn't suffer because she has a mental disability and could lose her insurance. I mean, the list just literally goes on. It incredibly hypocritical for government representatives to take away healthcare from millions while keeping their government healthcare. We need to stop putting the interests of insurance companies above human lives! Don't you all brag about being pro life? What is pro life about ending the lives of millions that rely on health insurance to survive? We matter and we deserve healthcare. Stop the petty dem/repub spite bullshit.

Laura Lechette

19018
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Missy Ross [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

To Whom It May Concern,

My family relies upon quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. As a mother to three sons, one living with a rare, life threatening condition called Marfan Syndrome. Marfan Syndrome is a connective tissue disorder.. It impacts every cell of a person's body, weakening tissue and connections.. Because of this, my son lives with multiple congenital heart defects including mitral valve prolapse and an enlarged aortic root. He has low vision due to dislocated lenses in his eyes and lives with a high risk of retinal detachment. Last summer, as an 11 year old boy, he underwent halo traction therapy for 3 weeks prior to having a spinal fusion to correct his severe scoliosis. Marfan Syndrome is a degenerative disorder and has NO cure. 25% of the people who have it were the result of a random genetic mutation - neither his father or myself has this condition, nor were we expecting to see it manifest in our son. Because I love my son, care for his well being as a child, young man, and future adult citizen of the United States, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Melissa Joy

Milton, WI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott and Lisa Burns [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Lisa Burns
Subject: Ten reasons to consider - no

Honorable US Senators,

Working with insurance plans is difficult enough without the added complications of States selling different types of coverage in their plans. How are insurance companies going to realize benefits of large pool of customers, if States vary in critical coverage items, like pregnancies & birth-control, which GCH does not mandate for coverage (as ACA's 10 essentials does). How are consumers expected to read additional 'fine-print' ? A Federal Bill (not transferred to State control) is needed, because uniformity is required.

Of course, there are many other reasons that make this Bill very disappointing – as you, decision-makers who receive the best healthcare, must be aware of. I conclude my top-10 list of the Bill's shortcomings here:

More reasons to vote no on Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal Bill:

1. Fails to improve health care for Americans as a whole;
2. Hurts the most vulnerable (elderly in rest homes) in USA population by taking away Medicare funds in 8 years;
3. People with common health conditions, e.g. diabetes, asthma, heart disease, & cancer will be priced-out of insurance because of these common pre-existing conditions;
4. AMA, hospitals, NAMD & other health care providers are against Graham-Cassidy Bill;
5. Bill represents too much change, especially so close to October insurance 'open-enrollment';
6. States are not prepared to take this on. Include Governors in debate!
7. Rushed through, there is no CBO score available, as would be normal in deliberations;
8. Unfair distribution of funds to States;
9. The Bill is primarily politically-motivated proposed to beat 50-vote, along Republican party-line, finance reconciliation deadline.

Sincerely,
Lisa Knox Burns

[REDACTED]
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Stephens [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I urge you to vote no on the Graham- Cassidy bill. We need a bipartisan solution to healthcare, not a bill rushed through without hearings and a CBO score. Healthcare experts, doctors, AARP, and major health organizations all agree this bill will be a disaster for the American people. Please, take the time to listen to experts and the American public. People's lives depend on it!

Wendy Stephens
Yorktown, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Harman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare --please don't repeal ACA

I am very concerned about my healthcare so I do not want ACA repealed. No plan has been presented by the republican Senators that will make Americans healthcare better. Instead 32 million people will lose out. Are these 32 million just expendable? I believe all healthcare should benefit everyone and we deserve it. The rich do not need a big tax break at the expense of the everyone's health. I have pre-existing conditions and I could not afford a huge raise in my premiums if the ACA is repealed. Please think very carefully about repealing and the huge negative effect it will have on most Americans. Listen to the majority of the people you serve and don't repeal and take our healthcare away. Thank you for you service.

Sincerely,
M. Harman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Hochstetler Spicher [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:05 PM
To: gchcomments

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family and I rely on affordable and quality healthcare, and I don't believe that this bill will be able to provide that. Thanks to the passing of the ACA, we have been able to afford higher quality healthcare than we could before, something I fear would change if parts of it are repealed. So instead of repealing the ACA, I ask that there are bipartisan efforts to improve it. I strongly believe this will provide more Americans with the higher quality healthcare they deserve. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Jenny Spicher

Klamath Falls, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dorothy Solbrig [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My daughter, in her 50's, has health issues, including pre-existing conditions, which mean she could not afford health insurance without the ACA. Because of her issues and those of many others, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Dorothy Solbrig
Harvard, MA 01451

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edie Boxer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and I rely on the quality of affordable healthcare. My son relies on ACA for his medical insurance due to pre existing conditions. Because of these reasons as well as the effect on our economy, secret negotiating, and the loss of medical insurance for millions of United States citizens- especially penalizing those with preexisting conditions, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I would prefer a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, NOT REPEAL IT.

Sincerely,
Edith G. Boxer

Edith (Edie) G. Boxer MSW, BCD, PSY.D

[REDACTED]
Santa Monica, CA 90403
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Notice of Confidentiality:

This email may contain material that is confidential and/or privileged for the sole use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and delete all copies. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Wagner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal or replace the ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am very concerned about leaving it up to the states to decide if pre-existing conditions will affect coverage as well as affordability. I have a son that was recently diagnosed with a mental illness. His medication and care is very expensive. When he falls off our healthcare plan at 26 years old, how will he get affordable care with this pre-existing condition? He will not be able to buy his medication which will result in a terrible downward spiral. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Wagner
Libertyville, IL 60048
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

I strongly oppose this terrible bill you are trying to rush through. Just fix Obamacare and rename it Trumpcare and everyone should be happy. I am a senior with major health issues. Are you ok with letting me die because my income is just 894 a month Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill - Please Vote NO!!!

I and thirty-two million other Americans with pre-existing conditions desperately need your help! Please vote "NO" on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill! Please choose American citizens first!

I am thirty-three and a cancer survivor. I was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia when I was six months old and relapsed when I was two and a half. I have had two bone marrow transplants, donated by my older brother. I have had multiple rounds of chemotherapy and total body irradiation. Thanks to my family, doctors, and nurses who fought so hard to keep me alive, I survived. I am extremely grateful to still be standing here today. However, I continue to have multiple pre-existing conditions due to the side effects of those treatments, now including the possibility of a different cancer.

I and thirty-two million other Americans cannot survive without your help. The Graham-Cassidy bill will not protect people with pre-existing conditions. Our states, even if they decide to protect us, will not have the funding to do so. Money will be taken away from the majority of our states, not given to them. Instead of helping to fix the flaws that Obamacare has, this bill will eliminate the protections for people who need those protections the most.

These protections have saved countless lives, including my mother's. She had Stage IV metastatic triple negative breast cancer. If it weren't for Obamacare, the chemotherapy drugs she needed would have been capped and she would have died. She lived eight years longer because of the pre-existing conditions protections Obamacare provides. She had the chance to spend more time with her family and meet her new granddaughter. I was given more time with my mother, my best friend.

If Graham-Cassidy passes, our premiums will be raised so high we will not be able to pay them. Caps will be placed on our treatments - life-saving treatments. These treatments are not for elective cosmetic purposes. These are

treatments we need in order to survive. Every American deserves a chance to survive. We are not just statistics on a piece of paper. We are human beings. Our lives matter more than making a political party appear successful, giving tax breaks to the wealthy, or building a useless wall.

As so many people deal with illnesses throughout their lives, either themselves or through friends or family members, I'm hoping you understand. We aren't lucky enough to receive free, high-quality healthcare, like members of the Senate. However, we deserve high-quality healthcare that is affordable. We need to be able to concentrate on fighting our illnesses, not to be concerned if we'll have enough money to pay for our treatments or that we'll die if we don't. Most of us did not ask to have the conditions and illnesses we have. We treated our bodies well and still ended up with them. We're scared and vulnerable and begging you and the other members of the Senate to have compassion for us instead of greed. I never thought that our government would cause us to feel that way, but it does. Show us we can feel safe and comforted in our own country. Choose the American people over your party. Show us that you have our backs at a time when we need it the most. Please VOTE NO on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill!!! Thank you!

Sincerely,
Margaret Hale
Reynoldsburg, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Varteressian [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

To the members of the Senate Finance Committee:

The current "health care" bill before the Senate is a real threat to our country and my family. Before the passage of the Affordable Care Act my son was unable to obtain health insurance because of a pre-existing condition. Now he's able to have affordable insurance that covers the cost of his monthly infusion (which would have cost him \$16,000 a MONTH) as well as the other medications, lab tests, and numerous doctor visits he requires to treat his Crohn's disease. Without medical care, he would be unable to run his small business and would face the inevitable surgery and possibly death from his condition.

Please don't repeal and replace the ACA. Fix it. Work together to come up with the changes that are needed without throwing millions of people off their insurance.

Thank you for your time,

Laura Varteressian
Saratoga, CA 95070

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Greg spooner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee members:

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. And I do not understand how the Senate could support a bill that has no CBO score, has had no real debate in the Senate. Forgetting for a moment the merits of tossing tens of millions of citizens off their health care plans and subjecting tens of millions more to giant premium increases if they have pre-existing conditions, how can the Finance Committee responsibly support such a drastic change in health care spending without a careful study of the impacts of the law?

Please oppose this hasty effort to deconstruct 1/6th of the economy and risk creating a financial and health care calamity.

Best regards,

Greg J. Spooner, PhD
San Francisco, CA

Beamed by Apple Tricorder 7 Plus

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Valerie Zick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please, please, please do not pass this bill. It is without heart, without compassion and I honestly believe that any person who has experienced fear of becoming sick without health insurance could never vote for this bill, When did we become such a mean hard hearted country? Honestly, I just don't get it.

Valerie Zick

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Honorable Senate Finance Committee,

If the goal of the Republican party is to exterminate large numbers of Americans, including your own voters, further the rising desertification of hospital free zones, condemn children to early deaths via lifetime caps, and otherwise "Make America Sick Again," then by all means pass the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

However, if you have any vestige of a soul or remember anything about what Christ would do, or simply wish to avoid being cast into the depths of Hell for this monstrosity when you die, kill this bill in committee and work on a proper reform that works with experts, the public and Democrats.

Finally, take this as a warning, not a threat, pushing desperate people and their families to the brink with this abomination of a bill that many of you know is evil, will be repaid with the blood of your families and those who's job is it to defend them. Prevent the bloodshed now. Kill Graham-Cassidy, NOT the American people.

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Chase [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote AGAINST the healthcare bill!

Dear Sirs and Mesdames,

I urge to vote against the Trump healthcare bill. It is unkind and too partisan.

Thank you,

Emily Chase

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maret Knight <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill - oppose

Hello,

I want the affordable health care act improved with a bipartisan effort. I think that the graham- Cassidy bill would be of great detriment to Americans. As a small business owner, affordable health care is crucial to our family.

It's Maret Knight

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: erujole matthew [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE DONT DO IT

Please do not cut on the Medicaid bill, for the sake of the masses and everything. Thank you.

This is a phone email, please do pardon any typos.....("In Love we Grow")

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dana Dawson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy, make America Great Again!

Finance Committee,

Honestly, how hard would it be to catch up with the rest of the developed world?

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

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

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

Dana Dawson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

LYLE, Ohio 44313

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Stegmann [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

To Whom it May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with preexisting conditions is that my husband is diabetic, and medication alone is extremely expensive.

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

Sincerely,

Nancy Stegmann

Elkhart, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bill Hilton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Senators

My family and every American relies on being able to access affordable, quality health care. Thus, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill that would remove millions of my fellow Americans from insurance roles. My daughter, a registered Nurse Practitioner, would have been on such fellow American a couple of years ago. She was working as a nurse at San Francisco General Hospital to earn enough money to finish her nursing education. Yet, she did not have health care coverage because she wasn't a regular employee. This kind of situation has become quite common for people in many employment situations: contractors, temporary workers, part-time workers, independent business people, probationary workers, etc. Graham-Cassidy would remove gainfully employed from access to affordable health care insurance. It would remove protections for pre-existing conditions—a particularly harmful action for people between jobs.

I want to see the Congress defeat Graham-Cassidy and get to work on something positive: improvement of the Affordable Care Act.

Bill Hilton
Sunnyvale, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise Maple [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing on the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill

Hello,

I am vehemently against the proposed amendments. As an educated woman with a MBA from a top school, I am dismayed, surprised, and disgusted with all of the health bills brought forward by the GOP, including this one. I cannot believe the GOP thinks the entire country is that stupid and uncaring about our fellow citizens.

Obviously I am against it. Anyone who cares about people, who are less fortunate, or sick is against it. And it is so dishonest for any legislator to vote for a bill that they would never, ever accept for themselves or their family.

Propaganda can only go so far in the GOP's preying on middle Americans. If you do succeed in gutting the protections of the ACA, at least many honest, hard working Americans who have so far been bamboozled will understand what your collection of millionaires, Wall Street insiders and right wing extremists are really about. And I say that as a high-earner working in Corporate America. When as a country to we stop putting money and corporate profits over the health and well-being of people and the planet on which we live.

Sincerely,

Denise Maple
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Morgan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Bad bill. Make millions suffer. Send insurance companies into chaos. Send hospitals into bankruptcy. Never mind nursing homes who get much of their income from Medicaid and who will lose most of it. Dead people.

However, rich people will do fine.

Not the America I want to live in.

People, this is immoral.

Beth Morgan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: PAULA H ZEITLIN [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill: I OPPOSE

My husband and I and our families all rely on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose to the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband is 70 years old and has two pre-existing conditions: Parkinson's Disease and ARVD, a heart condition. (I am 72 and still working) Graham-Cassidy would have an immediate negative impact on us if it is passed.

I 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 husband 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 husband, 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,

Paula Zeitlin
Newtonville, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melinda Tobey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Please stop trying to repeal the ACA just because Obama's name is associated with it.
We all know that the GrahamCassidy bill is NOT the answer to affordable healthcare for all.
Please work toward a real healthcare solution for all Americans and STOP the party politics, it's so unbecoming of the Republican party.

A concerned SENIOR citizen,

Melinda Tobey

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: twonobles <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare public testimony

Myself and my son need fair, secure, consistent quality healthcare. I am against the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Before Obamacare i survived two types of cancer leaving me labeled a pre-existing condition. I was no longer considered a person who faithfully paid monthly healthcare insurance premiums for myself and family for 40+ years. I was a liability to be disposed of and that's exactly what they did. We were self employed, we didn't need subsidies but I could not have coverage at ANY cost!

My son is 35, he lives with multiple sclerosis. He does not want to go on disability, but as his disease progresses he will not be able to keep his job. He is also a pre existing condition, he cannot do consulting at home and stay employed without the security of consistent secure coverage.

Leaving our futures up to the whim of the states and their financial situations while at the same time causing huge cuts to healthcare programs, then stating we are covered is disingenuous. Some say a huge LIE.

It's not enough to fight cancer and MS on a daily basis? It's not enough that we are in pain and have no stamina? It is not enough that we have to fight insurance companies to get them to pay valid claims? It's not enough that our premiums are outrageous? No, to add to this we have you putting our opportunity to survive at risk every few months and we have to do battle with you to keep REAL ACA protections.

You have created three horrendous bills each worse than the last, for what reason? Certainly the best interest of the sick ("the least of these") isn't your motivation. Doing what is best for all Americans doesnt seem to be at the forefront. Worried about the health of the poor? No. Wanting to create a lasting, successful healthcare system? Certainly not! Caring about your voters wishes? Nope, that's not true. The only reason that makes ANY sense is donors....you care and act based on what your donors want. Donors matter more than voters. You need a win for your donors. Dump this albatross back on the states and pretend the reason is "States Rights." If you vote yes on this horrific bill, make no mistake, you do so knowing the truth...you do so for all the WRONG REASONS.

You were hired to do a good job, to work hard to create something better for all the people. To do so in regular order, with debates and compromise. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not the repeal of it. If you cannot find your way to do this, look at yourself for what you have become and what you are willing to do to very sick people.

Sincerely, Karen Noble

Sequim, WA

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Dillon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Wright, Kevin (Finance); Dent, William (Isakson)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comments

To whom it concerns,

I am writing to strongly urge the US senate, especially my senators from Georgia, to OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy Bill and to vote against any legislation that reduces or caps any form of Medicaid.

My adorable 12 year old daughter, Zoe, has Down syndrome and, as a result, significant medical and therapeutic needs which have been extremely costly to treat (last year's average was \$4500 per month, equivalent to my husband's monthly salary as a university professor). We have been so fortunate to have good private health insurance through my husband's employer; however, the Medicaid support Zoe has received since age 1 through the Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver has been an added blessing to her and our family. While Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia helps to cover a substantial portion of Zoe's medical bills and medications, it has covered a significantly lower portion of the physical, occupational or speech therapies she has needed over the years and, at times, not covered them at all -- KB Medicaid has filled in those gaps and allowed us to provide these needed services for Zoe that otherwise we could not afford. KB Medicaid also provides an essential safety net should we ever be without private medical insurance.

My husband and I are well-educated, hard-working parents and professionals; we contribute a great deal of time and energy to caring for and enriching our own children's lives and the lives of other children and young adults in our community. But as educators we do not make a lot of money; in fact, our combined income is still in the lower middle-class economic range. While we don't qualify for income-based Medicaid, Zoe still definitely needs the financial support of the Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver to help ensure our ability to continue to provide quality therapeutic and medical care for her until she is 18. Thereafter Zoe will need the ongoing support of Medicaid to help pay for her medical needs and to help her live a quality life in the community (not in an institution).

Zoe is a happy, well-adjusted child, and she has a very good life due in part to the financial support she and our family have received through the Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver. I want my little girl to continue to have a very good life, now and as an adult, and I ask that you think of her and our family when you consider the future of Medicaid. I urge you to vote against any legislation that cuts or caps Medicaid assistance to children and adults with disabilities, including the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Respectfully yours,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew K. Gold <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

As an insulin-dependent diabetic in my forties, I am intensely aware of how lucky I have been to have had health care throughout my life. Medical issues are a daily part of my life, and my long experience with diabetes (I was diagnosed when I was 12) has made me aware, too, of the importance of health care in the lives of all Americans. This is not a red or blue issue; it is an issue about ourselves, our parents, and our children.

I'm writing to ask you to **vote NO** on the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. Here's why:

1. The bill is bad for families

The bill would not require insurers to cover pregnancy

2. The bill is bad for children

Families of children with pre-existing conditions would face crushing additional costs -- \$140,000 for cancer patients, for example

3. The bill is not bipartisan

Obamacare was bipartisan legislation, with participation from BOTH Republicans and Democrats

4. The bill has not proceeded through regular order

Obamacare was passed after 44 congressional hearings and public meetings over 15 months. There was been -- what -- 90 seconds of public hearings on Graham-Cassidy?

5. The bill will kill people

This is it, plain and simple. If you pass this bill, people will die due to the increased cost of coverage.

6. Nearly every medical and insurance association has come out against it

The American Medical Association, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, and medical insurers themselves have come out against this bill.

Thank you for considering my feedback on this bill.

Respectfully,

Matthew K. Gold
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10002

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Monica Chandler [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I have been a lifelong Republican. I have voted in every presidential election since I turned 18. This past November was the first time I voted for a Democrat. Since then I have had my eyes open to the extent that Republicans serve the interests of corporations over the interests of their constituents. I would like to see the Senate take on the pharmaceutical companies and the for-profit healthcare companies and force them to bring prices down to what other countries pay for healthcare. It is outrageous what we are forced to pay and for services that are not even better or more effective. It's funny when I hear people say that other countries require waitlists that we don't have. Yet, it took me six months to get my then, 18 month old son into a developmental specialist to diagnose his autism. That was six key months of time where he was receiving no therapies or interventions. I'll never know how much more progress he could have made had we not had to wait for those six months. It also took me six months to get in with a dermatologist to just do a routine skin check. Please do not tell me we don't have waits here, because that's just not true. You need to realize that it is obvious to everyone you are just trying to repeal a bill because of the person who put it in place and not because you actually want to help more people. If you're not in the Senate to help more people you should not be in the Senate at all. You will not help more people by handing money back to the richest of the rich and the owners of the healthcare and pharmaceutical corporations. You will just be helping yourselves. There are still people willing to do the right thing in the Senate. John McCain is one of those people. He really is acting like he doesn't have much to lose, and maybe he doesn't. But what he has gained is my respect even more than he ever had it, which is mountains and skyscrapers above any respect I have for our current president. Stand up for those who do not have money, power and influence. By the way, in case you weren't aware, that's most of us.

Monica Chandler

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Gallin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Joe Steier; Peggy King; Randy Daniels
Subject: Signature HealthCARE's comment request to be addressed at the Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy legislation

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments to the Senate Finance Committee for the upcoming hearing on the Graham/Cassidy legislation to Repeal and Replace the Affordable Care Act.

Signature HealthCARE is a healthcare and rehabilitation company with **125 locations in 11 states and nearly 22,000 employees**. Signature's organizational culture is founded on three pillars: Learning, Spirituality, and Intra-preneurship. A growing number of our centers are earning five-star ratings from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. In 2013, the company was named one of Modern Healthcare's 'Best Places to Work' for the third time. <http://www.ltcrevolution.com/>

The Graham/Cassidy bill does three things that would impact our centers quite badly and has significant challenges for all long term care providers.

FACT: Approximately 63 % of Long term care residents rely on Medicaid for their nursing home care.

1. The bill before the Senate moves Medicaid to a per capita cap that limits the federal match for Medicaid funds.

- For the aged, blind and disabled population this is a huge challenge. While the Graham/Cassidy bill increases the growth rate annually at a Consumer Price Index (CPI)-Medical plus 1 % until 2025, after that the rate of increase in the cap is based on the CPI-Medical without the 1% and while this is good, the rate of increase for other beneficiaries drops to CPI-Urban, which is quite low.
- The problem here is that Medicaid funds for the aged, blind and disabled population are not "**walled off**" and a state could use these funds for **any population**, so all other beneficiary groups will fight to

increase their funding, forcing all groups to compete against one another for funds.

2. The bill reduces the maximum provider assessment from 6% to 4% which would result in an average per facility loss of approximately \$200,000 a year

- starting in 2020, the maximum is reduced .4% each year. The maximum in 2020 is 5.6%, 2021 it is 5.2%, and it continues downward annually until it reaches 4%. This affects 35 states that have provider assessments in excess of 4% - **Obviously, we cannot survive that type of cut.**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6kxW1WkyH4>

3. The bill also includes a massive shift of funds from Medicaid expansion states to non-expansion states for the healthy adult population

- If you are in an expansion state, this will put further pressure on the overall Medicaid program and make it difficult to fully fund anything, including services for older adults and people with disabilities.

If at all possible, we would like to address our comments at the Committee hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy E. Gallin
Director of Legislative Affairs
Signature HealthCARE Consulting Services, LLC

Signature
Legislative Affairs

<http://blogs.litrevolution.com/the-legislative-lady/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/legislativelady>

Contact:



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Casentini [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

We are appalled by the latest effort on the part of the GOP~~~ the Graham Cassidy ACA Repeal~~~ to take away health care coverage from multitudes of our citizens. The heartlessness and lack of concern and empathy demonstrated by these ruthless members of Congress is unconscionable. Who are these people? Please know how astounded and disgusted we are by what has been happening to our country and the lack of integrity of many of our leaders. Our forefathers must be turning over and over in their graves.

Lee and Linda Casentini [REDACTED] Saratoga CA 95070

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liv Beck [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. A few years ago, when my son was only 3 months old, my husband was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. I am very concerned that federal law protect citizens with pre-existing conditions, such as my husband, from being priced out of health care coverage. From what I have read of the Graham-Cassidy bill, such protection would be left to the states, and start to crumble.

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

Sincerely,

Sarah Beck

Berkeley, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michele Peterson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Health Care

My name is Michele Peterson. I am a resident of Springfield VA 22152 and I would like to share my story and thoughts on the ACA and the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I strongly feel that there should be a bipartisan plan to fix the ACA and to stop sabotaging the current system with threats to withhold money, cutting back the enrollment period and shutting down the sign up portals one full day of the week, Sundays, when many working people will have the time to sign themselves up.

The ACA has done a lot of good in expanding affordable coverage for Americans. While it definitely needs our elected representatives to work together to fix some problems, on the whole it has done a great deal of good.

My daughter is 27 and the ACA was enacted in time for her to remain on our insurance policy for a few more years. As she has preexisting conditions (Depression and Narcolepsy being the most serious) it was truly a huge deal for us. She was then able to purchase insurance that she can afford on the health care exchanges when she turned 26. We are worried sick that the Republican Senators are threatening yet again to pull this away. While it is working reasonably well in Virginia, similar partisan issues have kept it from being the best it can be through Medicaid Expansion. In the states that provide Medicaid Expansion and provide facilitators, etc, the ACA works quite well.

Personally, I too have a preexisting condition. I had Ulcerative Colitis for about five years. Although eight years ago I underwent a surgery that pretty much cured me and I have been very healthy since, I will find insurance pretty much unaffordable under the Graham-Cassidy Plan. I am 55 and a small business owner. The years with the ACA have given me great peace of mind, and although premiums may be higher than I'd like, and deductibles are also high, I had been confident that we were on our way to a better system where every American had access to the health care they needed at prices they could afford. Virtually every human at some point in their lives will develop a preexisting condition. The reason the Republican majority cannot provide a better plan is that the ACA IS a Republican plan. The ONLY reason they are trying to repeal it is partisan and that is horrible governing.

Working to shore up and repair the ACA would be tremendously good for the economy as a whole and I am quite disgusted that the Senate in Majority is so desperate for a "win" that they will put that above the health of their constituents and mess around with such a huge segment of the nation's economy.

Please reconsider getting back to normal order and showing us that we can come together and do good things for Americans.

Respectfully,

Michele Peterson



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dodge <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Act

As a pediatrician who cares for children with special needs, many of the provisions of the ACA have allowed my patients to receive better care and have taken a great deal of pressure off families. I have also seen it allow friends to access long deferred care, which has allowed them to be healthier and more active in the workforce. Attempts to repeal the ACA with various bills based on the assumption that healthcare is a privilege are misguided, shortsighted and cruel, and should be abandoned. Improve the ACA, stop trying to erase it!

Dr Nancy Dodge
Grand Rapids Michigan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Minda Chipurnoi [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that I have had breast cancer & my husband is Diabetic I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Minda Finkelstein
Yonkers NY

Sent from Minda's iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Yeomans <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

My family relies on good quality, affordable health insurance. Without it, the health care we need is beyond our means.

In the past two years we have had a broken wrist, two hand surgeries, and a major stroke which has left my husband paralyzed on his right side/wheelchair bound.

We have received excellent medical care and thanks to Medicare and the ACA, our recent health care needs have not resulted in bankruptcy, homelessness, or soul-draining credit card debt.

Before ACA we simply couldn't afford the health insurance coverage we needed. I am grateful every day for the coverage we have now and urge --no, BEG you not to tear it apart.

America doesn't have a health care crisis, it has a health INSURANCE crisis, and it's important that we solve this problem by reigning in the big health insurance and pharmaceutical companies, NOT by limiting people's access to health care or health care providers' ability to do their best work.

My husband is slowly improving. I'm able to work a little now, as well as care for him. If he loses his insurance, he'll probably never work (or walk) again. And then what will we do?

I pray you find the strength and compassion to handle this well; to do the right thing even though it's not the easy or profitable thing.

Remember what the Bible says?
"The LOVE of money is the root of all evil."

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patience Virtue <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill, or Why I'm Not Ready To Die Horribly

I am 28 years old. I am a loving big sibling, an adored auntie, a beloved child, a best friend, and a valued employee. I love to write -- I hope to publish a book someday -- and I love to cook and read and knit too. Thanks to Medicaid I have been able to go back to work, to get into an apartment, to take care of myself and family members. I work hard to make very little money stretch: I knit and sew, cook, mend, make my own cleaning products and condiments. I also try to sell art on the side. I don't make much, but I'm trying to make ends meet any way I can.

But I am chronically ill, and if I lose healthcare I will not be okay.

The first week would be mostly okay. My medications are the kind that build up in the system for best effect, so it would only be after a couple weeks I would see health deterioration.

After 1 month, I will likely be already in a moderate-severe depression. I will see performance at work suffer. I will have more frequent panic attacks, forcing me to take more breaks at work. I will have to call out from work a couple days a month. I won't be able to clean every day, and as my environment suffers my depression will only worsen.

After 2 months, my budget will be starting to suffer from lost time to depression and panic attacks. All my organisation of my home will be starting to slide from my inability to do most housework. I won't be able to cook whole meals anymore, so I'll have to spend more on partially prepared food and I won't get as much nutrition from my food. I won't be able to update the Etsy store as regularly, so sales there, scant as they were, will dry up.

After 3 months I'll likely hit a manic stage at some point. I'll try to use that to clean my house and do a bunch of projects, and then exhaust myself even further, causing the following depression to be more severe. I'll be thinking

about self harm and wondering if life insurance will be better for my family than me being alive. I'll wonder if I could make it look like an accident.

After 4 months I'll need to move somewhere cheaper because I can't afford even my one bedroom apartment anymore. But I won't be able to move because I'll be too depressed and moving costs money. Maybe if I'm very very lucky a friend will help me move. Most likely I'll have to move in with unsupportive family who will further trigger my panic attacks and depression. I'll be too depressed and exhausted to unpack all the way. I may just throw away many of my possessions, even needed ones, rather than move and unpack them. I won't have the money to replace them.

By 5 months I won't be brushing my teeth anymore. I won't be able to shower much. I'll be having sobbing meltdowns and panic attacks throughout the day every day. I'll either be rapidly gaining weight from stress or losing weight dangerously. I won't want to live. My body will be in constant low to mid grade pain. I won't be able to do any housework and will have quit my job if I didn't get fired first.

By 6 months I will be unable to work or take care of myself. I also won't be able to fill out welfare paperwork or apply for disability by myself. I won't be able to afford to go to a doctor who could help me qualify for disability. If I manage to find a friend to help my apply for disability, I will get rejected.

Month 7 I won't have the will left to fight the disability rejection. I won't have the will to live at all. I will be wishing just to go into the hospital and die. I will be constantly deluged in suicidal ideation and thoughts of self harm. I won't be able to sleep, but I won't be able to get out of bed either.

Month 8 I will be self harming. I will be deliberately neglecting my body hoping to die. I won't eat. My family won't let me drive anymore because I am a danger to myself.

Month 9 I will be committed inpatient either voluntarily or not. If they refuse to take me inpatient I may attempt suicide. If I survive, I may get to go inpatient then. If not I may become homeless or try again.

By month 12 if a family member or friend hasn't taken over care of me I will most likely keep trying to die. If by some miracle I got approved for disability, it would take 2 or 3 years or more to get back to the level of functioning I have carved out for myself right now. I may never be able to function again at the level I am now.

Regardless of whether I live or die, my self harm and attempts will have traumatised and triggered my younger siblings and my nephew. Family relationships and friendships will have deteriorated, probably at my own hand, leaving me further isolated and vulnerable.

The ER and other medical costs of my decline will cost the state magnitudes more money than the cost of letting me stay on my life-saving medications. But the loss of my contributions to the economy, the labour I do to support family members and friends, my contributions to the community; how are all those things even to be measured? How can the state say that my traumatic health decline and probable death are better for the economy than a whole healthy person?

How would it serve any purpose, depriving a high schooler of her big sister, a toddler of their auntie, a single mom of her most supportive sibling? Who is helped when the disability community is reeling because now none of us are able to support each other as we all slowly worsen and die? How is this anything but the most horrific of eugenics, a targeting of the most sick and fragile and vulnerable among us?

How could a Christ who healed for free, condone the wholesale slaughter of the sick? What kind of "Christian" nation would do such a thing to those of us with no money, no resources to save ourselves from the travails of poverty and sickness?

I beg of congress to let me live, to let my baby sisters keep their big sibling, to let my sweet nephew grow up remembering his auntie, to let my friends not lose another of us to sickness or suicide. All I want is a chance to live.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Danielle Poulsen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Your shameful "healthcare" bill - Graham-Casside

This comment is regarding your latest awful attempt at repealing the ACA. For some reason, the GOP is not understanding that Americans do not want the ACA repealed - 80% of us feel this way. Attempting to erase everything that Obama did, trying to negate his existence, his achievements during his eight years in the WH is NOT an agenda. Stop these attempts, Leave it alone. Move on. Try to do some good, or at least stop doing so much harm, during this brief time until we can remove you from power.

I am not an ACA recipient nor is anyone in my family. My husband has a good job, we are in the top 1% with our household income, we have excellent health insurance through his employer. I am white, I am a 48 year old citizen of the US. My family can be traced back to the founding of America.

The lack of empathy, the lack of compassion, the flat out greed by those who already have so much - who for selfish and prideful reasons want it ALL - in all ways, at all times. I have never been so ashamed of any group in our country as I am of this current ruling GOP and of course, the DREADFUL occupant of the White House who remains in his role due to the malice and/or cowardice of GOP enablers.

The comments which GOP "leaders" have made about not wanting to take care of anyone, besides your own families, your own kind - rich, white, male, Christian - are beyond shameful.

I will gladly pay my share to help my fellow humans in this country to be well, to receive care, to have their basic needs met, to remain alive. I don't need the ACA for now - they do and I WANT to help them, cure them, save them. I WANT to pay more because they can't.

Why on earth do you not? What kind of people are you?

These are the darkest of times in our country. You are the villains of these darkest of times. Shame on you. Search your soul and make a change.

Danielle Poulsen, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: No Way <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Garbage HealthCare Bill

Dear elected officials,

We (the people) are the majority in this country. Yet, ourselves, our children, our families are being greatly jeopardized by the actions of a few- our Senate. Our Senate. The very people we elected to serve us are placing us at risk.

Sadly, I have to speak up again and again or my family will suffer. I should not have to. You should respect that you were elected to serve us not the 1%ers but you don't. The Koch brothers have poured 400 million into defeating ACA. Why? Because they want more money for themselves. It is simply greed.

Please know that I see the "inhumanity of taking away healthcare from pregnant women, children, the vulnerable and those with pre-existing conditions". Why don't you?

I am disappointed in Bill Cassidy and Lindsey Graham. How could they do this?

Thank you for standing strong for the people Mark Warner and Tim Kaine. Virginia is so proud of you.

I vote every year. I will organize and resist this Lindsey-Cassidy HealthCare abomination.

Shame on anyone that votes for this. It is a miscarriage of justice.

Special thank you to John McCain and stay strong!

Sincerely,

Uzma Rasheed

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melinda Riser [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

Until I am old enough for Medicare in a few years, I will depend on my Obamacare subsidy to make my health insurance affordable. My understanding is that Graham-Cassidy would use the Medicaid expansion money-- money that certain states used to increase Medicaid participation--to create Obamacare-like systems in all the states, spreading that fixed amount of money among all 50 states so that **states like mine (Washington) would have much less, and my subsidy would be cut.** Those states who refused Obamacare for their citizens (all with Republican governors) would use this money to create new health plans now that the money is offered by Republicans. This only makes sense as partisan politics as usual. There is no need for each state to create their own unique plan from scratch; I believe that as human beings we all have the same health care needs whether we live in a red state or a blue state. For example, all pregnant women need maternity care, but Graham-Cassidy would allow states not to cover that. **I believe that Republican lawmakers who support Graham-Cassidy must be heartless hypocrites.** Quit trying to repeal Obamacare!

Melinda Riser
Seattle, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tim Lavalli [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Please stop playing politics with our lives.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda McKibben [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: So called HealthCare Bill

Dear Senators:

The Koch brothers have poured \$400 million into defeating ACA to wrench away healthcare from pregnant women, children, the vulnerable and those with pre-existing conditions.

We are deeply disappointed in Bill Cassidy and Lindsey Graham.

Thanks to those of you who stand strong for America. Special thank you to John McCain!

Sincerely,

Linda McKibben MD
Kaly McKibben
Silver Spring Maryland

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roberta Krumholz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please consider NOT voting for the Graham-Cassidy bill. There are too many reasons why this is a bad bill. It doesn't cover pre-existing conditions. (I have had a bad health year and I now fit in this category). It takes away funding for Planned Parenthood that gives health services to women who need it. (Not only abortions). States can decide to withhold coverages if you allow them to do that. The costs will become prohibitive. I ask you to please work ,in a non partisan way, to fix Obamacare. It has so much going for it and just needs a good tweaking. Thanks Roberta Krumholz

[REDACTED]
Warren, NJ 07059.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charles Mortimer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my vehement opposition this proposed legislation. My oldest daughter has a number of health issues that requires no less than five prescription medications each and every month. Our health care costs as a family are already exorbitant, and any additional healthcare burden will bankrupt my family. This is not political hyperbole, this is simply a fact. It's astonishing to me that I have to email my own government to beg you not to harm my family. From every credible source I've read, Graham-Cassidy will cause anywhere between 20 to 32 million Americans to lose their health care coverage altogether. What are you there for if not to ensure the health and well being of your fellow citizens? Shame on the United States Congress if this legislation passes, and shame on all of us if we don't replace each and every one of you should that come to pass. I vote and be assured that I'm paying attention.

Respectfully,

Charles P. Mortimer
Seattle, Washington

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: michelle napier [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

The Graham-Cassidy bill would be devastating for both my brother and aunt, leaving them without health insurance. Please do not allow this to happen, my parents are elderly and can't handle the stress this is causing our family.

Thank you,
Michelle L. Napier
Springfield Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Franklin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (2) Story Submission for GC Hearing

Good morning –

My Indivisible organization spent last spring collecting health care stories from around our state to be shared with Senators Murray and Cantwell. This participant requested that I share their story with the SFC to be part of the record for the Graham-Cassidy hearing taking place on 9/25.

Kathryn Daniels
98107
[REDACTED]

Thanks to the ACA's coverage of preexisting conditions, I was able to leave an institutional job and pursue a freelance career. With low income I qualified for premium subsidies and cost-sharing benefits. I now have an excellent health insurance policy at a price that I can afford.

I believe strongly that the United States owes its citizens access to affordable high quality medical care. Please work as hard as you can to preserve coverage of preexisting conditions, subsidies and cost sharing, and access for all Americans to health insurance. Thank you.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Franklin
Indivisible Kirkland Kenmore
www.ikkwa.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenn Lynn [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In Opposition to Graham Cassidy Bill

Good Morning,

I'm writing to you on behalf of my own family and the 400 families with disabilities that I represent as the Executive Director of Upcounty Community Resources, in Montgomery County Maryland.

Personally, I have a child with autism who is 15 years old. He is currently widely known as the Montgomery County Police Autism Ambassador and travels the country teaching Law Enforcement about Autism. He's received accolades and awards from the White House to the State House and beyond.

All of his progress, efforts to teach more than 1500 police about autism, are possible because he stabilized. Security and stabilization is only possible through very expensive medications and therapies. We adopted our son knowing he was a high-risk. We saved his life and made him a valuable member of this community and now, cutting medicaid would ruin his life and ours. His medications each month total many hundreds of dollars, a bill we cannot afford, nor will he be able to manage as an adult.

Professionally, I work with 400+ families with adults with disabilities. We have profoundly impacted folks to high functioning adults in our membership and they have become family to me. If the Graham-Cassidy bill passes, I will watch hundreds of my UCR family lose their homes, jobs and desperately needed medical care.

How can you make these types of changes in good conscience? How can you destroy these already fragile lives of our country's most vulnerable and gifted residents?

Please, at all costs, vote against Graham Cassidy and vote to keep ACA!

On behalf of my son, Jake, and my 400+ families,

It's a great day to change a life!

Jenn Lynn, Executive Director

[REDACTED]
ucresources.org

TheWorldAccordingtoJake.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Koshover, Sherie [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family and I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Sherie Koshover
San Francisco, CA

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tammy Fasano [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is with my daughter and a pre-existing medical condition. Our daughter has had numerous health issues throughout her life both physical and mental. She has entered adulthood and currently has coverage under the affordable health care act. This has helped her tremendously.

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

Thank you,
Tammy Fasano
Middletown, RI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Franklin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (3) Story Submission - GC Hearing

Good morning –

My Indivisible organization spent last spring collecting health care stories from around our state to be shared with Senators Murray and Cantwell. This participant requested that I share their story with the SFC to be part of the record for the Graham-Cassidy hearing taking place on 9/25.

Shannon Cheng
98119
[REDACTED]

As an aspiring entrepreneur, having the ability to access health insurance independently has been a great boon in providing me the freedom and flexibility to pursue a non-traditional career path and follow my dreams. Starting a business with limited resources has already felt like a big risk without the added concern of what happens in the case of medical emergency to me or my family if we are not insured. Having access to health insurance has given me the peace of mind to better focus on matters of actual importance rather than nebulous fear of what to do when things go wrong.

I don't think Obamacare is a perfect system, but it is progress toward a better system. The proposed replacement of Obamacare (Trumpcare?) is laughable in addressing the actual need for healthcare in this country. I do not believe the people who voted for it actually have the healthcare needs of our entire population in mind. I challenge you to work on improving the system. I believe your goals should be providing universal healthcare access and making it more affordable across the board.

Fundamentally, people are people and taking care of one's health is a universal right and not a privilege you earn or get by luck in who you were born to. Whether a person uses the system by conscious choice or because they have no other option, having the ability to do so eases their burden and allows them to live a more fulfilling life and hopefully be a positive force in the world.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Franklin
Indivisible Kirkland Kenmore
www.ikkwa.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Brandt [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Yes to Obamacare. No to Trumpcare.

Finance Committee,

I support continued Obamacare, for the sake of the 32 million Americans who depend on it.

Please oppose the latest Trumpcare initiative (Graham-Cassidy). Not only does it throw poor Americans off health insurance, but it gives billions of dollars to medical device companies.

Laurie Brandt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Somerville, Massachusetts 02144

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M Joyce <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ICYMI: Statement jointly released on September 23, 2017 by the American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross Blu...
Attachments: Joint-statement-AMA-AAFP-AHA-FAH-AHIP-BCBSA-9.23.17.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

In case you missed it --

The following statement was jointly released on September 23, 2017 by the American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association regarding the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson legislation.

<https://www.ahip.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Joint-statement-AMA-AAFP-AHA-FAH-AHIP-BCBSA-9.23.17.pdf>

Please do not allow Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson to proceed.

Thank you.

Maryanne Joyce
Pelham, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teresa Frazier <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health care bill

Please do not inflict this horror on the American people. The elderly, the disabled, children, and poor folks should not pay the price for tax cuts for the already obscenely wealthy.

Please fix the problems with ACA in a bipartisan way.

Teresa Frazier
[REDACTED]
Abingdon, VA 24210
[REDACTED]

--
T Frazier

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: GeanSusan Wickes [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No

Unbelievable that you think you have an improved health care plan.
You and your president are hypocrites.

Susan

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Venkat Rajagopal <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed ACA changes

The proposed cuts to Medicaid will have a major negative impact to those with special needs disabled. Please do not enact such drastic cuts to those that need the most.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Flom [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fix not kill ACA

The attempts to kill it are a broken record caused by an inappropriate campaign pledge. The process being used to ramrod a bill without a CBO score or real debate will haunt those who push it. AMERICA is not a dictatorship, stop trying to make it one!

You're messing with the pocketbooks and lives of tens of millions of us, who are going to remember that no one in government (or the wealthy) are dependent on the ACA or other non-employer provided health insurance.

We are not a third world country, but we are headed in that direction with actions like this. Other first world countries have far lower health and drug costs with as good or better life expectancy and care. They don't rely on block grants to political subdivisions, eliminating universal coverage (including Pre-existing conditions), or essential benefits.

Get to work Congress to fix the real problem, it's the cost of health care, not ACA. We the people expect real leadership, bipartisan debate and constructive action, not continued manipulative nonsense.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kris Butler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Are you kidding me? We all know the GOP cares more about billionaire donors like the Koch brothers than they do about the health of the American people, but this is blatantly horrific, even for you.

Vote no. So you can sleep at night, if nothing else.

Kris Butler
St. Paul, MN

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Juan Acosta [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health bill

This Cass/Graham bill should not be allowed to pass. Many Americans will be left without insurance and many will die. This can't be allowed.

Thank you
Juan Acosta

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: George Greene <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

The ACA has saved my daughter's my life. We did not ask for Ulcerative colitis which turned to Crohn's. I did not ask for eye cancer which spread to my liver.

Without the ACA, we would never have received the medical care we needed. I did not have to go bankrupt. Though my work schedule has been disturbed, I do not have to fret about additional expenses.

What you seek to do is to tear a safety net away from millions of people like you and me. We do not know when hardship will hit, but, when it does it cuts to the bone.

The Preamble of the Constitution states that We the people in order to form a more perfect union, etc. what Graham-Cassidy proposes really is disunion. It takes from blue sister States money to bribe red sisters States to accept a bad bill which winds up health care not expand it.

You effectively allow mandates to be scuttled so persons will to be fooled into coverage that provides no care.

You remove coverage from women, children, the elderly, the most vulnerable in our society.

You need to look deep into your souls and reflect upon why you became public servants. There must be a hidden spark which will lead you to believe you serve the citizens of your State not the entities or persons who donate to your coffers.

This is a bad bill. I ask you to reject it.

Respectfully submitted,

George Greene
State of New York

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Grace Barter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill opposition

Hello,

My family and I—along with the majority of American people—rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and the irresponsible nature of the proposal with such limited time for consideration and full CBO report. My family members rely on the care of the ACA and I am committed to protecting the health care for all Americans, despite their sex, gender, age, or preexisting conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Grace Barter
Sandwich, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenny Nowalk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

To the Senate Finance committee:

Jennifer A. Nowalk, and Robert A. Nowalk, stand firmly against this health care bill. What ever excuse can elected officials possibly have for this monstrous bill?

Every informed citizen advises us this bill is disastrous.

There is simply no excuse. There is very little we can say to you, in fact probably nothing ,that has not already been said.

We vote, if that matters, faithfully and with mixed ticket. Does that matter? What on earth does matter to any of you?

Tomorrow we are walking in Lansing Michigan in honor of a dear friend who has Alzheimer's disease. Do you think you are immune to such disease? Or could we have your health care plan?

We remained dumbfounded over this inept action by elected officials.

Stop the madness.

Secure health care for all and be done with it.

Yours,

Jennifer A. Nowalk

[REDACTED]
Culver, Indiana
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrew Lardie [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE: Healthcare repeal bill

Dear Senate Finance committee,

My wife, two young children and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Medical surprises have altered, and threatened, the lives of my mother, siblings, niece, daughter, and wife. For my loved ones, access to healthcare has made the difference between ruin and recovery, in terms of both finances and health outcomes. Any healthcare overhaul that reduces either the number of insured people, or the safeguards and standards established by the ACA, would result in lives ruined, and indeed lost. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Andrew Lardie
Brunswick, ME

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kevin Te [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill hearing, September 25, 2017
Attachments: Letter to the Editor - Health care bill.docx

Hello, my name is Kevin Te, and I would like to submit my comment for the Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing on September 25, 2017. My e-mail is [REDACTED], and my address is [REDACTED]. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kevin Te

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Kline <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

My son has schizophrenia and is barely making ends meet. If his Medicaid is cut he will be homeless and then be at risk of stopping his medication and ending up in jail. Please do not support this health care bill. My son's life depends on.

Sincerely

Nancy Kline

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Franklin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (1) story submission for GC Hearing

Good morning –

My Indivisible organization spent last spring collecting health care stories from around our state to be shared with Senators Murray and Cantwell. This participant requested that I share their story with the SFC to be part of the record for the Graham-Cassidy hearing taking place on 9/25.

Carl Baker
99353
[REDACTED]

My roommate is currently unemployed due to medical issues. He is working very hard to get these issues addressed, but is caught in a constant cycle of referrals and delays because some things should be covered by L&I and others by insurance. Doctors who can address his issue don't all take his insurance and there's a general reluctance to provide the treatment he needs. He's been out of work for 6 months and there's no clear resolution in sight. He is welcome to stay in my home as long as he needs to, but I know that he would love to return to work and get his own place.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Franklin
Indivisible Kirkland Kenmore
www.ikkwa.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vincent Pecoraro <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The rise of fascism

So the only way to balance the budget is to overthrow the government and enslave the American people? Please don't pass this. Recognize healthcare as a right.

--

Vincent Pecoraro

[REDACTED]

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/vincepecoraro>

Linkedin: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/vincentpecoraro>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: fhub <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Legislation is inadequately funded to permit removal of the preexisting illness mandate. Legislation will not lead to further coverage but lessen coverage and will not contain costs. Alternative is pursuit of consensus legislation that will explore the real sources of rising health care costs: the health care industry including the hospital combines that set their own prices, the pharmacology industry that has evaded cost control by avoiding price controls, evading patent expirations and deceptive advertising, The inability of major government purchasers to bargain prices. The unrestricted growth of diagnostic and medical procedures that have dubious benefit. The variation in hospital and physicians fees that is incomprehensible. The lack of regional planning in development of advanced centers for procedures. Reform of the Affordable Care Act is needed but by avoiding the major costs of medical care by avoiding the major uncorrected problems in our current medical system only leads to more disparity in delivery of quality care and increasing numbers of uninsured.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachelle Stone <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

To whom:

This bill is terrible. It cannot be allowed to pass. If Republicans had such a problem with the ACA, they should have used their time to make something better, instead of griping about what he did. You may also want to catch a clue from the fact that this is the third attempt to repeal it. People like having healthcare. If you don't start serving your constituents, instead of corporations, you may find yourselves out of a job.

Sincerely,
Rachelle Stone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: grahm-cassidy healthcare bill

Millions of people rely on the government healthcare system and now it has become a political football. Lives are at stake. Plans for healthcare cannot be made because of the uncertainty of this three ring circus congress has created. You don't like "Obamacare"? Make adjustments but don't kill it. I sometimes think I'm watching behavior on a school yard during recess.

David LaCombe
Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dot Klein <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE, do not bring this bill to the floor. This bill is a disgrace. It is not health care reform it is death reform.

How can you put through a bill that will take away health care from millions.. You talk about States taking control. I and the majority of Americans see it as a death wish to those with pre existing illness'. Before ACA if you could get coverage for pre existing you couldn't afford to pay for it. So that meant that the costs were passed on to the government and health care costs were out of control. At least the ACA brought down government costs and would continue to do so if the republicans were not fighting to keep exchanges out and not promoting young people to have insurance. The republicans are not interested in their constituents and what should be a right....Health Care for All. They and the president only want to repeal because they hate President Obama.

Dorothy Klein

VOTE NO ON GRAHAM CASSIDY!!

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: S Reizburg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare is a right for EVERY American - REJECT the Graham-Cassidy Trumpcare bill!

Finance Committee,

Sir,

Are you aware that the newest version of what we like to call Trumpcare will now kick 32 million Americans off of healthcare?

Are you aware of how this would be devastating to American WORKING Families? This would absolutely roll back all the progress we have made to protect the elderly, the poor and the infirm!

Are you aware that this bill - known as the Graham-Cassidy bill - would after taking away peoples healthcare, would then give a \$20 BILLION Tax BREAK to the highly-profitable medical device industry? This is an industry that has made \$230 billion in profits - and then has stashed that money OFFSHORE on which it has NOT PAID A DIME IN U.S. TAXES!

IF you remember, back in 2009, the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare) was reviewed by three (3) different Senate committees and they held DOZENS of hearings and held over 169 hours of consideration.

TrumpCare is going to have ONE (1) hearing - which is not only an embarrassment - but due to the fact that what they are hearing about and asking questions about is LIFE AND DEATH FOR YOUR CONSTITUENTS WHO ARE TRYING TO MAKE A LIVING, SCRAPING BY DAY BY DAY - THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!

I am writing to TELL the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to REJECT this Graham-Cassidy bill and to do what you were elected to do by your constituents - PROTECT THE LIVES AND THE HEALTHCARE OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS!

You can do this by finally changing the laws, so that the wealthy corporations HAVE TO PAY THEIR FAIR SHARE OF TAXES (G.E. has paid ZERO in taxes - in fact they have gotten tax money)

When corporations actually PAY THEIR TAXES, America will finally be able to invest in our country's infrastructure, in our healthcare for our working families and will make a difference in AMERICA'S FUTURE!

Thank you,

S Reizburg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Delray Beach, Florida 33484

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacy Naus <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal and Replace -- don't do it!

I am writing to beg you to please do NOT repeal and replace the ACA.

I have a special-needs son. I have a disabled husband. And I have a special-needs grandson. We are one family out of 30 million+ who will suffer if you repeal and replace the ACA!

You are telling people that their healthcare under ACA repeal will be "accessible" -- that everyone will be able to be covered. You neglect to mention that everyone who is a *millionaire* will be able to get coverage -- because the premiums for those with pre-existing conditions, like 75% of my immediate family, will be so incredibly high that coverage will not be possible.

Then there's medicaid -- why would you throw poor, elderly, and disabled people off of medicaid?

Without the ACA and without medicaid, some of my immediate family members will die. My husband, who has heart issues and diabetes, will be unable to afford his medication. He will be unable to receive the therapies he needs to stay alive.

We are taxpayers. We have believed in the system and worked to support it, support America, and support our family for over 50 years. Surely you, as our elected representatives, can do better than this. Surely, you can work with the bi-partisan initiatives currently in the senate to make healthcare work for Americans.

We are not asking for a handout. We are asking for our representatives to ****represent**** us -- less than 12% of Americans want to see ACA repealed and replaced. No one believes it is perfect. No one says it doesn't need help. But isn't that what our representatives are there for? Why do you refuse to work in good faith for the American people, when they have done that for you all of these years?

We are not asking for much. We are only asking that you allow us a fighting chance to stay alive. We did not elect the Koch Brothers. We elected YOU because we trusted you. And you are letting us down. We expect, and hope, for better.

Thank you,

Stacy Naus
Centennial, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Schertler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Please do not remove healthcare for thousands of your fellow Americans by supporting this latest cynical attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. There are, and have been, areas of the ACA that can be improved. I urge the United States Senate to work on a united bi-partisan plan that will improve on the current law, and stop the proposed Graham-Cassidy health care repeal effort. The repeated, half baked plan is not only a waste of taxpayer time and money, it poses a real threat to the lives of many Americans.

Respectfully Submitted
Nancy Schertler
Newburg MD

--

"Too much and too long, we seem to have surrendered community excellence and community values in the mere accumulation of material things." Robert F Kennedy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Gunn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

The Graham-Cassidy bill is more despicable than the previous attempts to take away health care for Americans. How do you sleep at night? We pay for your health insurance and deserve as good or Better. No, a thousand times NO, on repeal and replace. Fix and Improve is what true representatives of the citizens of this country would be doing. Politics is a Four-Letter-Word.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Maxwell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable care act

Our family has excellent health insurance through my job. However, I'm a single parent and my daughter has several pre-existing conditions. It terrifies me to think what might happen to her if I weren't employed in a situation that enabled her to be covered, should we no longer have the affordable care act to fall back on.

I also know several parents of special needs children. Medicaid is literally the difference between being able to live with some independence and dignity and living in misery, dependence and in some cases unsafe conditions. It is unconscionable that Graham-Cassidy seeks to eliminate Medicaid, which provides coverage to the vast majority of disabled people and seriously ill elderly.

In addition, I have a dear friend who has lived with HIV for more than 20 years. He is healthy and highly productive, a scientist and entrepreneur. With the ACA, he was able to take pursue a dream to open his own business just a few years ago. Losing his coverage would be catastrophic for him, and a betrayal of a commitment I believe this country made to him and others like him. It's a commitment that is good for the country as well, since many other people benefit from his creativity, hard work and expertise.

Please listen to my stories and those of countless others. We need more health care coverage, not less. Of course there are flaws in Obamacare. Fix them so more people are covered, not fewer.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth G. Maxwell

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lilly Hankins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham- Cassidy bill

My 17 month old daughter loves Elmo and picture books. She was also born with only one kidney, a pre existing condition, which means she can get insurance now under the ACA but might not be able to if it was repealed. Please don't do that to my family and my silly baby girl. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lilly Hankins
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote NO on terrible, toxic Cassidy Bill, it kills veterans, seniors, disabled prematurely!

PLEASE vote no, TABLE the Cassidy bill, it's TOXIC!

Please go back to REGULAR ORDER as my hero John McCain has argued, and GOP still controls the committees so GOP still is in 'driver's seat' so that should be acceptable to the majority party.

Lt. Colonel (Ret, Army) Richard D. Liebert
[REDACTED]
Great Falls, MT 59405

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Urbanski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 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.

Dr. Heather Urbanski
Fitchburg, MA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrew Lambdin-Abraham [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 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.

Andrew Lambdin-Abraham
Austin TX

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: lcantrell@thearcofva.org
Subject: Graham Cassidy Finance Committee Bill Hearing Testimony/Statement
Attachments: Graham Cassidy Finance Committee Statement.Testimony.docx

To Whom It May Concern:

Below in italic and bold, and attached to this e-mail is my statement/testimony for the Finance Committee's hearing regarding the Graham-Cassidy Bill. PLEASE forward this document to the proper parties. I believe I have fulfilled the requirements of this document: The title and date of the hearing, along with my name and address are on the first page and at the start of the e-mail. Thank you for allowing me to submit this statement/testimony to the Finance Committee.

TITLE OF HEARING: *Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing*
DATE OF HEARING: *September 25, 2017*
NAME: *Joseph R. Mangio*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

To Those Legislators on Capitol Hill (Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing):

I am the uncle of a 31 year old man, Ryan, with Down Syndrome. I also a retired special education teacher who taught students 18 – 21 years of age with extremely severe intellectual, developmental, medical, physical, and behavioral disabilities.

Ryan, through his hard work and the advocacy of his parents has accomplished a great deal in his lifetime. Because Medicaid was available as a reimbursement funding stream for him during his school career Ryan was able to receive speech, physical, and occupational therapy. Since Ryan was able to receive those services he was able to develop the many “soft” skills physically and socially in order to make him employable upon his transition from high school at 21 years of age. Ryan currently works for a food service provider on the campus of Buffalo State College in Buffalo, New York. Ryan also lives independently in an apartment near his parent’s home. Ryan was able to obtain and maintain his job and integrated residence due to the supports he receives from a local volunteer agency, People, Incorporated. Without the supports provided by People, Incorporated Ryan would surely NOT be employed and would surely NOT be living in an integrated residence. Volunteer agencies, like People, Incorporated and MANY throughout Western New York, New York State, and across the nation receive 90% of their funding from CMS/Medicaid. If this funding were to be decreased and eliminated the supports Ryan receives at home, his transportation, his job, and wrap around services would be decreased if not eliminated altogether. Without these opportunities and options Ryan would drastically and catastrophically regress socially, emotionally, and physically. It would be a tragic regression of what has been, to this point, a productive and happy citizen. Since as a nation we are all exhibiting longer life spans it seems to reason that Ryan will also display a longer life span and, if Medicaid funding is cut and services lost, be subject to an unproductive life for potentially 30 – 40 more years. A double jeopardy in Ryan’s case, and thousands of other individuals with Down Syndrome, is that as they age they begin to develop Early Onset Dementia and eventually Alzheimer’s Disease. As these diseases manifest themselves individuals with Down Syndrome will require even more supports, oversight, services, and medical intervention in an attempt to lead integrated, productive, safe, and healthy lives. CMS/Medicoid is their LIFELINE to the supports and medical treatments they will rely upon.

As I stated previously as a special education teacher I taught 18 – 21 year old students with extremely severe intellectual, developmental, medical, physical, and behavioral disabilities. It was the responsibility of my staff and me to prepare these students for their transition into safe and appropriate post-secondary programs. As my students proceeded throughout their education careers they received related services that allowed them to address deficiencies and needs within their skill sets. The related services that addressed those needs were Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, Vision Therapy, Hearing Therapy, and Counseling. ALL of these services provided a foundation for the skills the students would develop to become successful upon their graduation. Each of these related services was reimbursed, through the school district, with Medicaid funds. Without Medicaid reimbursement for these vital services the students within mine and hundreds of other school-age programs would have not received the support and direction to address and master critical skills needed for their development. Upon graduation/transition the post-secondary programs and services offered to these students and their families are offered by a multitude of volunteer agencies here in the Western New York area. These volunteer agencies receive 90% of their funding from CMS/Medicaid. The array of services, depending upon the needs of the student(s) is vast; site-based day habilitation, day habilitation without walls, supported work environments, integrated employment, respite, transportation, medical needs, residential, and the list goes on. If New York State and nationwide volunteer agencies lose their percentage of funding from Medicaid, of which they are barely surviving now, they will surely go under with CATASTROPHIC results for hundreds of thousands of individuals who will be without life sustaining programs and services. The lives of these individuals and their families will be TRAUMATICALLY effected beyond recovery. Without Medicaid as a funding stream for these vital services, programs, and opportunities individuals would be sentenced to lives at home. Literally “at home institutionalization”!

Whether addressing my nephew Ryan’s needs, or the needs of thousands of people like him, or the needs of my students, or the needs of thousands of people like them, or their families, the one common thread that allows people with intellectual, developmental, physical, behavioral, medical disabilities and their families to lead normal lives is MEDICAID!!!! I STRONGLY and FORCEFULLY ask of you now, on behalf of our MOST VULNERABLE American citizens and their families, to OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I also STRONGLY and FORCEFULLY ask of you now to work in a bi-partisan manner and develop a Health Care model that will benefit the entire nation and ESPECIALLY our MOST VULNERABLE CITIZENS!!!!

Respectfully,

Joseph R. Mangio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Margaret Doherty <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy; keep and strengthen Obamacare

71 y.o. Single mother whose husband died at age 60. Our developmentally disabled son gets no check nor case management from the government for being disabled. I support him on modest retirement. As I age he will need help. At a minimum, please ObamaCare in place. Thanks for listening! Mary

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Gapinski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Statement to submit to:

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Monday, September 25, 2017

10:00 AM, 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building

From:

Nancy Gapinski

[REDACTED]

Glendale, WI 53209



My name is Nancy Gapinski and I live in Glendale, Wisconsin. Our son Ben is 10 years-old and he is a great Scout who takes the Scout Oath seriously promising, *"to do my best to do my duty to God and my country, to help other people, and to obey the law of the Pack."* His teachers, scout leaders, and coaches all comment that Ben tries his best. He volunteers his time in the community and prays for the sick and for his friends each night. He appreciates the special education supports he has at Glen Hills Middle School to help get his "mind and body ready to learn each day." Ben sees it as his duty to help other children by sharing how Medicaid therapy

services helped him, because he wants them to get the help they need too. He values his friendships and his family; he supports the Pack. Ben has autism.

Prior to receiving early intervention (birth-to-three) services, intensive in-home autism treatment services, and special education services in the local public elementary school, Ben did not respond to his own name, frequently body-slammed us, ran off when out in the community, and barely spoke. He didn't call me mama or have an effective way to express his needs, wants, and thoughts. Now he is performing grade-level work in an inclusive regular education classroom, is active in Cub Scouts- with a dream to become an Eagle Scout one day. He runs cross country and plays the bass in the school orchestra. He has friends over to play Minecraft and he and his sister, Zoe, bicker over things like who gets to sit where and whose turn it is to pick the movie to watch. Seven years ago my husband and I had no idea whether Ben would be able to do any of these things.

We will be forever grateful for the help Medicaid funded for Ben. We could not afford \$52,000 per year in therapy or even with employer-sponsored insurance, the out-of-pocket insurance obligation of \$8000 per year for 3 ½ years. Our mortgage was underwater enough that we could not sell our home to meet his needs- we looked into it. Like thousands of other parents trying to meet the health and developmental needs of their children, Medicaid was our last resort.

Ben is no longer a Medicaid participant but he benefits from the infrastructure that Medicaid provides in schools through reimbursement for nursing and therapy costs (\$60 million in Wisconsin alone). We don't know what supports Ben will need as he grows into an adult, but want to be sure that if he needs support to live in an apartment or maintain a job that these supports are available to him and to other people with disabilities across our nation. Right now they are available through Medicaid Home and Community Based waiver services.

Like Ben, you also have taken an oath, your oath of office: *"I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."*

I ask that you also take your oath seriously. You will not "well and faithfully discharge the duties" of your office if you vote "yes" to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. In scout speak, you won't be protecting the Pack. We, your constituents, need for you to protect the most vulnerable- children, frail elders, people with physical, developmental, intellectual, and mental health disabilities, and people with addictions. We need you to protect our access to essential health care, regardless of our ability to pay or our pre-existing conditions. We need you to protect our jobs and our economy, 1/6 of which will be impacted by this bill. If you won't listen to us then we need you to take the advice of the 75 different expert organizations that have spoken out against this bill.

Please set aside partisan politics and any magical thinking that somehow the states can do more with billions less in funding. Remember Ben and remember your oath of office and vote for the health and safety of our country. Vote no to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal and make it clear that you will protect Medicaid- swear to it.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail leiser <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy NO

The Graham-Cassidy bill is bad for America in both policy and procedure.

This bill will leave millions uninsured and will take us back to the days of people paying high rates for insurance only to discover that they really don't have any coverage when it's needed.

The Finance committee is not the relevant committee to be holding hearings on this bill; one hearing in any committee is inadequate for a bill that would affect 1/6th of our economy; calling on the creators of the bill as expert witnesses is a farce.

Gail Leiser

[REDACTED] (H)
[REDACTED] (W)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Claussen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill

To the Bipartisan Senate Finance Committee,

First of all, thank you for your representation and for receiving comments and testimony, as is your duty, from the American people.

I am a retiree, age 69. I depend on Medic

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re and my husband's FEHB health insurance with the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) insurance as a secondary insurance and for medication. I have diabetes and my husband has a heart condition

. We both have sleep apnea which requires periodic equipment and supplies. Our conditions, thus far and for a number of years, have been stable with regular medical attention and medications. The area of health insurance is the most important and stable element in our lives. We

consider

our

sel

ves

fortunate that the combination of Medicare

the NALC secondary insurance cover the costs of our health needs. Though we pay for that insurance, combined with medicare over \$500/ month, we don't have to worry about not getting the health care we need.

We are both on relatively limited fixed incomes. If we did not have this security and the wonderful family doctor and other services, our closely watched medical conditions might not be so stable. And this causes much anxiety for me as well as millions of other people like us who barely cling to the lower middle class. We have been hard working people. My husband worked for the Federal Government

for over 23 years. And I was mental health therapist for over 40 years helping people with among other things to hold onto their Medicaid and Medicare. Since the ACA, I saw a client who was deformed by having a broken elbow

that was never fixed

for 28 years finally get

health

insurance

after working in fast foods for years with inadequate ability until she could no longer manage physically or mentally. She never had health insurance until the Medicaid expansion. She was severely depressed. With encouragement to check out the possibility of fixing what she thought was a hopeless situation, she found that doctors could replace her broken, disfigured arm with a

new

elbow

. The surgery she could now get with ACA meant a total

transform
ation of her disfigured arm
into a fully functional
one.

S
he became a
normal looking person, with the absence of
the constant
nerve pain she had for all of those years. I worked with
so many
people who suffered from profound mental illnesses
, but because they
worked
at low wages they made
too much
money
to be able to qualify for insurance
. With the ACA,
for the first time in their lives
they could
get needed medication and therapy to
manage their conditions and
become fully functional people
,
often even get
better jobs.

You may wonder why I am personally complaining (besides a career dedicated to helping the
population that most benefits from it) about the Cassidy-Graham Bill when I do not directly use the
ACA. Well it threatens me and our insurance with NALC and possibly with Medicare too. Because of
the repeat actions to try to 'repeal and replace' it, we found even our insurance could be jeopardized.
When we looked for the usual open season information
at this time of year
from
our

current federal insurance carrier

,
NALC
,

we found instead an
article on their website telling their members that they are 'encouraged to tell their senators to oppose' the Cassidy-
Graham Bill. They list 4 reasons why:
" 1. The bill would take insurance away from millions of Americans, making premiums rise nationwide to recoup the
cost of providing uncompensated health care (FEHBP, too).
2. The bill would waive insurance regulations, allowing health exchanges to collapse, weakening protections for
those with pre-existing conditions and exposing FEHBP to similar disastrous consequences in the near future.
3. Corporations and the wealthy would get tax breaks through federal funds meant to pay for the ACA.
4. The "employer mandate," requiring USPS to provide health care for city carrier assistants (CCAs) and others,
would be repealed. Although CCA coverage would still be guaranteed by our National Agreement with the Postal
Service, without the mandate, USPS might try to drop CCA coverage in future rounds of bargaining."

I, personally, want a federally regulated universal/single payer health care that is delineated as a human right. I am in opposition to health care developed and run by special interest

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; whether that is insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, or states aligned with the current political ideologies. Study of costs indicate that a well run universal health care does and would actually cost less than the current insurance market models.

It is my opinion that this latest configuration of 'repeal and replace' is a nother biased attempt of older white male Republican Senators, who do not care about women, children, the disabled, the poor or the not so rich, to take health insurance away from 20 million plus Americans. This includes an older person, from a good family with a good education who worked hard for over 40 years helping people rather than becoming rich, like me. The ACA is one of the most beneficial governmental programs ever established in the United States.

I believe these attempts to 'repeal and replace' are meant for the benefit of some Senators and Congressmen so they can be re-elected by their big donors and for their wealthy constituents to become richer rather than in the interest of the majority of American

S
. In my opinion they are acting for themselves and their party not for the people. I greatly object to the sneaky, improper, non-bipartisan tactics used by the proponents of this and the last bill to 'repeal and replace' the ACA.


It would be far better for the Senators and Congressmen of both parties to work together to improve and fix flaws in the ACA. Our tax dollars are being squandered by this and many other abuses of power going on in Washington, D.C.

Finally, I urge you to please do whatever you as individual members of Congress and collectively asa committee representing all the people of our nation, to stop this bill. Your responsible action help me and my husband maintain the health we need to live out our years without extreme anguish or compromised health care. No doubt you are also hearing from m any other people

a lot worse off than we and know this is a life or death situation.

Please do everything possible to defeat of the Cassidy-Graham Bill.

Thank you for reading my letter and your responsible attention,

Diane K. Claussen

Everett, WA 98208

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Grateful for Obamacare

I would not be alive without Obamacare. I was diagnosed with cancer not long after I joined. I needed a hysterectomy, and could not afford the operation. I received excellent care, was cured and am cancer free 6 years later. Please do not end Obamacare. Fine tune it if you must, but please keep in preexisting conditions and women's health issues. thank you,
Sincerely, Claudia Wolf

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gayle Logan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare - Graham-Cassidy Repeal

To Senate Finance Committee; Chairman Orrin Hatch; Senate GOP

As a Finance Committee, one would assume that you would be able to understand the damage that the Graham-Cassidy repeal of the ACA & destruction of Medicaid will do to our economy, as well as to human beings and their ability to access good affordable care. The impact of this loss of funding on one-sixth of the economy is massive and will be felt for decades! Republican governors, the insurance industry, all 50 Medicaid Directors, Hospital Executives, AMA, AARP, Arthritis Association, Cystic Fibrosis Association etc. are saying that the Graham-Cassidy repeal is unworkable.

Jimmy Kimmel has provided the best personal situation to illustrate why we all need access to good healthcare. No one knows who or when a medical issue will strike you or any member of your family. Who you are, as Kimmel so eloquently explains, should not determine whether or not you can be treated. At least Kimmel realized when it happened to him - though he can afford all of the costs - that many others could not and would see their children die.

It is obvious that you are following the edict of the Koch brothers and others like Paul Ryan who want Medicaid gone. Your donors may want tax cuts, but what happens to your constituents should matter more - since they are the people you actually work for. Koch money will not save you from the wrath of voters nor from your eternal punishment for having purposefully harmed seniors, children, families, mentally ill etc.

I am unwilling to tell you my personal family stories without their permission. Let it be said that we are a hard working crew, but I still remember the fear when I nearly lost health insurance when my husband changed jobs and I was pregnant. We are middle class and have no problem paying taxes so that all can have health insurance. That you, much richer folk, have an issue with it shows your incredible selfishness and lack of compassion, particularly for those of you who pretend to be God-fearing Christians.

There is a question that you should all ask: What if? What if the person in that wheelchair was me? What if it were my child or my mother who had cancer? What if it were me who was at the end of my life and needing hospice or a nursing home? What if it were me that had to choose between food, shelter and the medicine I needed to survive? Your job is to care about others; your job is to protect citizens. Do your job or resign.

Find your compassion and fix the ACA properly as the bipartisan committee with Alexander and Murphy were doing. Remember that some day, the 'what if' that I mention could apply to your parents, children or grandchildren. Stop living in your insular world of power and greed.

Sincerely,

Gayle F. Logan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jocelyn Kahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A healthcare bill should not be about an ill-conceived political promise! Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Let the bipartisan group working to improve Obamacare get back to work, focusing on HOW TO HELP PEOPLE - that will score the biggest political win for the Republicans!

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

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

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

Jocelyn Kahn
[REDACTED]

2015-03-26 15:26:17

Airmont, New Jersey 07506

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Hendrix <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Linda T. Cades; Rebekah Hock
Subject: Erin's Story: Please, Please Vote 'No'
Attachments: Erin.jpg

Thank you so much for opening the floor and allowing the 'little people' to express how the passage of the Graham-Cassidy Bill will totally destroy their lives. I write from the perspective of the people for whom the decimation of Medicaid will have devastating effects on the poorest, most disabled, and most vulnerable American citizens.

Our daughter, Erin, is 21 years old with a global developmental disability from birth. She is non-verbal and incontinent and has seizure disorder which is not well controlled and has the cognitive and physical function of a 2-year-old. Having said all that, when she is feeling good she is one of the most loving and sociable people you will ever hope to meet. In July, upon aging out of her residential school, she was accepted lovingly into her new adult 'family,' attending both their day and residential programs. Uncontrolled seizure disorder notwithstanding, she has done quite well since her transition to their facility in July. She loves the program and structure, and her caregivers have grown to love her, also.

Erin cannot live at home because she expresses her distress and need for structure and routine by refusing to eat or drink or take meds when she is out of her routine. Her dad and I, well-meaning as we are, are unable to provide her the structure she needs to thrive. We were delighted silly when we found and she was accepted by her 'forever home.'

Now, with the possible passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill, there is a chance the Medicaid (which supports Erin's day and residential programs, as well as her hospital bills and anti-seizure medications) will be gutted to the point that her new center might have to close and/or Erin could not get the medications she needs. Her dad and I firmly believe that if her new center goes away and Erin has to come home, for lack of any place else to go, she will die. And there is no question that she will die without her seizure medications.

I am trying hard not to sound melodramatic. It is hard to understand the plight of disabled people and those who love them unless you are personally affected by it. I am sure you will be getting similar letters from people with elderly loved ones in nursing facilities who are similarly at risk.

I am all about revisiting the state of health care in this country...but it needs to be done RESPONSIBLY, and with input from the CBO, and with actual conversation and working together across the aisle. This current bill is

just such a bad, bad bill and will have so many colossally negative effects on the people the decision-makers have sworn to serve.

Please... encourage the decision-makers to take their feet off the gas. I believe firmly that all of the Senators are good people with the best of intentions. Now is the time for them to show it.

Thank you for listening.

Carolyn Hendrix

Port Deposit, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ross Archer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy a possible death sentence

It is with disbelief I view the idea that for the first time in history, competitive pressures will cause the insurance companies to compete harder for sicker customers with pre-existing conditions -- business they DO NOT WANT. Removing price caps and federal standards will simply allow them to price the sickest Americans out of the insurance market. Many with serious chronic illnesses, such as myself, will in fact, die as a result of this change.

This is time for a serious discussion of controlling costs and delivering better care at an affordable price, not the time to separate people from life-saving healthcare to serve the interests of profit.

Make no mistake: a vote for this bill, which is opposed by nearly every patient-centered medical organization in the country, is a vote to abandon your fellow citizens to die in order to fatten the profit margins of corporations.

A prominent "death clock" website, showing how many Americans have been killed by losing health access based on best projections from the Harvard study on insurability vs. death rates, can be imagined as the 2018 elections approach. Perhaps my fellow Americans will care more than the GOP Senators trying to push this highly partisan killing monstrosity.

Sincerely yours,

Ross Archer
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Patterson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Please consider ALL the little children that have disabilities and will be so harmed by this health care being proposed. Our little grandson has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Please think about if your child or grandchild was born with a horrible disease like this. It is heartbreaking every day. It would totally destroy his chance at having any kind of life at all.

Please

Susan Patterson

[REDACTED]
Trussville, AL 35173

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rochelle Sohl <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My beloved daughter, Mary Jo, would still be here being a great mother and healer had The ACA been passed a year earlier. Self-employed, shed could not purchase insurance or qualify for Medicaid. She died January 4, 2014 from severe coronary artery disease. She would have been 50 this year. Her daughters were 15 and 3. Do not that pull this safety net out from under the previously uninsured such as my still painfully missed firstborn child.

Rochelle Sohl
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ruth Ann Foxall [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I would like to see fixing not fighting. I have healthcare but I spent my entire adult life working with underprivileged youth and their families I have seen the need.

I am also disgusted with Sec. Prices extravagant waste of tax payer dollars.

Thank you,

Ruth Ann Foxall

Bowling Green, Ky (site of a fictitious massacre by terrorists)

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daniel Suthers [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Daniel Suthers
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern
Re: Graham-Cassidy bill

Affordable healthcare accessible to all is very important to my family, and indeed most families in the U.S. My son was born with a condition (long-gap esophageal atresia) that was resolved by neonatal surgery made possible by the excellent health care plan we had at the time. However, now that he is on his own as an adult the Graham-Cassidy bill would open the possibility that insurers in some states would charge him unaffordable rates due to his "pre-existing condition". I speak not only for him, but for everyone whose ability to thrive would be hampered by the lack of affordable healthcare.

Therefore I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I agree with John McCain that congress should work in a bipartisan manner to construct carefully considered and evaluated solutions, not rushing through a poorly considered bill to meet an arbitrary deadline, putting much of our population at risk for shallow political purposes.

Dan Suthers
[REDACTED]

Honolulu HI, 9682

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: charles rudolph <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy please

I am a disabled senior dependent on subsidized health care. If Graham-Cassidy passes will the state pay for my funeral?

Charles F. Rudolph
[REDACTED]
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kim adair <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect the Healthcare of all Americans

Before submitting my comment regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill, I must first express my frustration and sadness that millions of Americans are expending huge amounts of time and energy in order to encourage our Senators to protect our healthcare, a basic human right. Our members of Congress were elected for the express purpose of protecting the well-being of its citizens. Yet, instead, we are finding ourselves spending great amounts of time and effort to protect our health, our environment, our finances, just to name a few. I believe it is a sad epitaph as to the state of our country at this point in time.


I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill and any endeavor to take away healthcare from one single individual in our country. Anyone who reads the news, looks at social media, or even watches television knows that a huge majority of American citizens agree with me. I pray each Senator has taken upon themselves to read over each aspects of this bill. If you are really about doing what is best for American citizens, and our country, I would expect you would also wait for a Congressional Budget Office (CBO) score. According to what I have researched, potential impacts of the Graham-Cassidy bill include: 32 million people could lose coverage after 2026 with 13-18 million people possibly becoming uninsured in the first full year of the plan. Fifty percent of the U.S. population live in states that may enact waivers eliminating consumer protections and/or reducing required benefits, such as maternity care. Additionally, by placing per-capital spending limits on the traditional Medicaid program, the resultant funding losses for states could exceed \$172 billion over 2020 to 2026.

I have had firsthand experience on the effects of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) after working as an RN and then a Clinical Nurse Specialist in healthcare for 45+ years. The majority of individuals do not choose to be in the hospital nor do they choose to have a devastating, life threatening illness which is one of the criteria to be admitted as an inpatient into the hospital. Before the ACA, I frequently encountered patients I visited who, if they did not have insurance or were underinsured, were very anxious about the financial impact of their hospitalization. Some were given letters while they were in the hospital telling them their cost of this visit. You can imagine the challenge of working with these individuals to educate them on their disease process, their treatment options, and their part in their recovery when they were distracted by their fears for their financial well being. Additionally, many had to make hard decisions as to whether they could even afford the treatment, such as chemotherapy, that would possibly save their life. Once the ACA came into effect, I saw a huge decrease in the number of persons who were distracted by fear for their financial futures and could make choices of treatments to save them.

My final story is a more personal one. Our family has been blessed with a special needs grandson who was born with a birth defect called holoprocencephaly. When he was born, we were told he would probably not live beyond the age of 2. Thank God, he just turned 8 years old in September. Our grandson requires 24 / 7 care with diapers, tube feedings, dressing changes, manually lifting, and other treatments. Even though he receives Medicaid, my son and his wife work many overtime hours to make ends meet. Still they are unable to afford a handicap van to transport him and therefore must be lifted into their minivan. Additionally, they are unable to afford lifts in their home. My daughter in law, who is 5'1", and my son, who is 6'2" must then lift his 55 pounds throughout the day. This consistent lifting has caused both my daughter in law and my son serious physical issues in their back and shoulders. Should they lose Medicaid, I have no doubts they will lose everything as will millions of other families with children who were born with birth defects.

I believe we demonstrate the value of a person by how we treat him or her. By not providing healthcare for all Americans, the United States of America sadly shows it values money over the well being of its citizens. I pray that our

members of Congress role model respect and value for all human life by using my tax dollars to provide healthcare for all people.

Sincerely,
Kim Sadler, 

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:40 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.

Matthew Cortland
Boston, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern;

In your attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act in favor for some rather cruel and savage plan that eliminates protections and coverage from millions, there are other consequences that you should consider.

If millions of Americans are stripped of insurance coverage or simply can't afford the exorbitant premiums, they will not be able to get life-saving or preventative care, and possibly not even seek necessary or any care.

This will result in the following;

- 1) Loss of revenue to insurance companies; no one will be able to afford it and companies will fold.
- 2) Elimination of jobs in the healthcare industry; patients can't afford care, no patients to serve and unemployment will sky-rocket.
- 3) Significant reduction of available medical services; no patients results in lost revenue to maintain facilities and personnel.
- 4) Certain and rampant personal bankruptcies; attempts to get care will subject the patient/family to untenable costs.
- 5) Increased deaths from preventable causes: patients that cannot afford care, insurance or medicine will suffer.
- 6) Increased levels of poverty, hunger and homelessness; no access to affordable care, an illness or pregnancy with drastically change a patients/family life circumstances for the worst.
- 7) The cushion that the pharmaceutical industry enjoys will crumble; no one can afford the absurd costs of medications now, that will only get worse.
- 8) It's cruel to make healthcare a luxury, available only to a minority of the selfish wealthy.
- 9) The socio-economic consequences will thrust this nation into decline and chaos. No one will be safe. No one will thank you, and all your ill-gotten gains will be worthless.
- 10) If your plan is to create an entire country of indentured servants or inmates in your private prisons (free labor), read about the French Revolution. There is a point where things get so bad, that they get ugly. Again, no one will be safe.

And if there is unlimited money for military spending (and golfing, secret service cart rentals and HHS Secretary's private plane trips) there is adequate money to provide for the healthcare needs of the citizenry. Don't be so transparently corrupt and greedy. Greed is NOT good. Grow some common sense and learn to empathize.

Regards.
M. Thomas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Peterson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy Graham Bill

I oppose the proposed bill and do not want repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

Delight Peterson
[REDACTED]
Richmond, VA 23221
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Chait [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I have pre-existing conditions: I can't support a bill that doesn't cover our needs, and neither should you.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Make us proud of you, the representatives to whom we gave our votes, and work together to improve our current plan to provide outstanding healthcare for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Judith Chait
Lexington, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ben Packard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Ben Packard
Hyattsville, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sabrina Smith-Sweeney [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care coverage

I'm writing to ask for your support in protecting all Americans, especially vulnerable children with complex medical problems.

We all agree that our healthcare system needs to be fixed, but the Graham-Cassidy bill is not the answer.

Please, fix the ACA, don't kill it (and the people it protects, imperfectly, but better than anything that's been proposed).

I'm writing specifically on behalf of my 3 1/2 year old son who was born with Williams Syndrome and a resulting severe congenital heart defect. He has had many life saving catheterizations and two open heart surgeries. Because of Williams Syndrome he will likely develop other life threatening but treatable health complications during his lifetime. The proposed changes would likely take those treatments out of his reach and would take the life of my vibrant child who is currently thriving and who loves to make every stranger he passes smile.

Please:

No to lifetime caps

No to discrimination against those with pre-existing conditions No to Medicaid block grants No to any cuts to Medicaid

No to Graham-Cassidy

Sincerely,

Sabrina Smith-Sweeney

A very concerned mother

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Harrison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Diane Harrison
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Santa Clara, California 95051

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 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.

Matthew Cortland
Boston, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Strauss [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it is being rushed through congress without sufficient time for review--or even CBO scoring. Also,

- Every single state Medicaid director is against it.
- Doctors and hospitals are against it.
- It does not protect those with preexisting conditions.
- It would leave millions without insurance.
- It would not protect against outrageous rate hikes.
- It will leave the health care market in disarray.
- It sets a bad precedent in terms of pushing through legislation outside of regular order.

I hope you will let this bill die, without bringing it to the floor.

Thank you.

Sharon Strauss
Philadelphia, PA

Sharon Strauss

19119
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Darlene Lindeman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please vote for the citizens of this country by voting against this fraud and disaster named Graham-Cassidy. Stop playing politics with people's lives!

This is a totally morally bankrupt bill and there is no reason or defense that would absolve any senator from voting for this "death" bill.

There are no benefits for the American people in this bill, unless you happen to be one of the 1% or .5% of the population who are set to receive huge tax windfalls from denying basic healthcare to America's citizens.

If this approach was the best approach, Republican senators would be out there explaining the bill and pointing out all the great ways it would help Americans. But they're not doing that. Instead, they are spouting a lot half-truths, untruths and misleading statements trying to trick the American people into buying into this bill. But most Americans are too smart for that and we know that this bill is a D.i.s.a.s.t.e.r. Graham-Cassidy is the death panels coming to everybody's neighborhood.

Any healthcare plan that slashes and limits women's healthcare, removes protections for those with preexisting conditions(yes, it does), eliminates the Medicaid expansion and much more, and hasn't been scored by CBO in totally unacceptable

The American people want you to stabilize the insurance markets; stop trying to sabotage the Affordable Care Act! We demand that you work in a true bipartisan manner to fix the Affordable Care Act, making it better and affordable for the American people and covering as many people as possible. We do not want 32 million people thrown off healthcare insurance. And do not steal money meant for healthcare and funnel it to big donors and fat cats. We see through that!

It's time to kick the atrocity that is Graham-Cassidy to the curb. Vote "NO" on Graham-Cassidy!

Sincerely, D. Lindeman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teuta B. Tanaka <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO vote for Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senator,

I imagine most people who are writing to you, asking for a NO vote on Graham-Cassidy, are either personally using ACA or know someone who does. I am neither.

Both my husband and I have employer-based health insurance. However, if ACA is repealed with this new bill, it would affect us very much for the worse.

When numbers are thrown at us about how many millions of people will lose coverage from ACA repeal, they are not counting the hundreds of millions of people with employer-based coverage. But it should.

Briefly, this bill will make it harder for people to switch jobs because of fears of losing their health coverage. It would make it easier for corporations to stagnate wages because they've got leverage over their employees. This would stifle career growth, and it would ultimately hurt corporations themselves. It would devastate our country.

After obtaining an MS degree in Molecular Biology I was hired as a staff microbiologist at a small company. There I acquired some industry knowledge and skills and was later hired as a Scientist in Diagnostics Research in a Fortune 500 company. This employer switch enabled me to use my Molecular Biology degree and grow my contributions to the company as well as the company's contributions to society.

This transition ease was made possible by not fearing of losing my health coverage or being denied for a pre-existing condition. My human capital increased, as did the company's capital. This would not have been possible if people are incentivised to stay in one job because of health coverage issues. We could lose the diversity of experiences and perspectives that come from a more dynamic workforce. This would intimately hurt corporations in the long term, and it would stifle society's progress.

I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill to protect ALL Americans, even those who have not considered how its passage will hurt them. I thank you for standing up for us and putting Americans before partisan politics or immediate corporate profits.

Thank you for your service to our country.

Respectfully,

Teuta Tanaka

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We have a high risk preexisting condition in the family and we need affordable insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Janet Williams

South Bend, IN

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aglenn646 [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

Too much is at stake to not take the time to get comments and bipartisan consensus. Do not pass this "bill"

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Schultz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: * PLEASE SAY "NO" TO THE HEALTH CARE BILL.

You have the lives of many Americans in your hands. Any healthcare bill deserves careful consideration and not a "rush job".

One of the important parts of the ACA is the ability of those with pre-existing conditions to be covered without a monumental jump in premium compared to "normal". This is so important for those suffering from chronic, serious illness. No one should live homeless or bankrupt just because they are ill.

Please, please do not rush this bill. At the very least, pull it without a vote

Thank you.

A voter from Indiana

Joyce L. Schultz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fw: Stop Trump Care

S [REDACTED] e

----- Original message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Sat, Sep 23, 2017 5:31 PM
To: gchcomments@finance.senate.gov;
Subject: Stop Trump Care

As a citizen of the United States and of humanity in general, I impl ore our elected officials to vote against this latest partisan slap dash effort to repeal Obama care. The Graham Cassidy bill is an attack on women and the poor and all predictions indicate tens of millions will lose coverage and others will be at the mercy of deals between their state government and insurance companies. The attack on Planned Parenthood, the greatest helper in preventing unwanted pregnancy and cancer, is an inappropriate religiously motivated attack. This bill is designed to ram something through that has not been properly discussed and which the medical community has declared a dangerous dismantling of the protections people need to ensure they can afford health care. Please vote against this bill!

Sincerely,
Carole Schaffer
Montclair, NJ

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: eESTHER TELLER [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: For please do not cut medicaid funding

AaideMedicaid is a real necessity for the disabled community. Many individuals will be tragically hurt if medicaid is cut or taken away. Who will pay therapy doctors dentists etc.? Medicaid is a life line for those people who need medical needs the most the disabled. Please take the disabled as well as others who depend on medicaid in mind when you vote. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Mrs. Esther Teller

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nicole Jones <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: American Healthcare
Attachments: healthcare.docx

September 23, 2017

Dear Madam or Sir of our Honorable Senate,

I am writing to you today to compel you to rethink the current healthcare situation.

I am a 45-year-old mother of two beautiful daughters. I work 3 jobs to support my family AND afford the healthcare I have now. I cannot afford to lose my insurance as I have Chronic Kidney Disease. I also can't really afford to have premiums or healthcare costs increase either. (An extra 20 bucks on the water bill can sometimes rock my budget!)

I was very lucky to discover the disease while I was in Ultrasound school. The symptoms are silent and the disease is not usually discovered until it is too late. Right now, I am in limbo as all I can do is watch my kidney function slowly reduce. The even sadder part is that this is hereditary. I must wrestle with the emotions that I may have unknowingly passed this onto my children. I only hope that my children can afford their healthcare when and if they are affected. That is why I am compelled to reach out to you today.

We cannot keep entertaining fly-by-night bills that are obviously going nowhere. American healthcare is of the utmost importance and this is an issue that needs to have greater focus and attention. Rushing through these bills without even knowing what is in them is too much of a gamble.

I know that both parties want the best for their constituents, otherwise their communities would not have put them in these powerful positions. We need to reach across party lines and decide what is best for our collective American future.

Thank you for your time.

Nicole Jones

Nicole Jones
[REDACTED]

Chesapeake, VA 23323
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: hsalem <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

I have read what the Graham Cassidy Bill would mean for our healthcare. For my healthcare.

I would like to ask why heterosexual cisgender white men think it is within their authority to tell me, a woman, an ethnic woman, what I may and may not do with my body. I should not have to fight as hard as I have been fighting to have affordable access to my own healthcare. Why do men like Graham and Cassidy and other republican senators, congress men and woman, think it appropriate to deny women the right to birth control when viagra is so easily given.

I have to wonder what they have against women so much that they deem appropriate to try stifle their autonomy. I have to wonder what kind of people these are when they fight so hard to deny women the access of planned parenthood. I have to wonder how incredibly ignorant and uneducated the people are who created this bill and who support it. How am I to afford a monthly healthcare plan that costs more than my car bill, phone bill, and household bills put together. How is this by any logical means an acceptable alternative to the ACA? What this bill is to many American citizens is a death bill. Pass this bill and you will have more blood on your hands than there is water on this earth to wash it away. That will be your legacy.

Be a human being and stop trying to kill people ,

Helaneh Salem

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Reehl [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

In regards to the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, please vote no to this dangerous health care proposal on Monday, Sept. 25, 2017.

We, as a nation, cannot afford to alienate our citizens by not providing basic, decent health care. Every person I know has some type of pre-existing condition. Most Americans cannot afford to be dropped from coverage or any increase in their health care cost. We need to be moving toward a single payer system, not something so much worse than what we currently have. This bill is so much worse.

We can do better. We are better than this. We are watching and paying attention and we will remember how you vote for this bill when it's our turn to vote for you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Reehl

[REDACTED] DeLand FL 32724

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Swenson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am writing to express my concern and opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill that would replace their Affordable Care Act. This bill is not good policy, it does not even meet the bare minimum of good policy:

- It leaves at least 23 million Americans without insurance-I suspect the number will be higher once the Congressional Budget Officer completes its scoring. Estimates are over 500,000 in Oregon will no longer have insurance-that's a huge number in a state of our size.
- It removes the requirement to cover essential needs, including as prenatal treatment. The United States has some of the highest under-five/infant mortality rates in the OECD, taking away coverage of prenatal treatment will not improve this metric. (<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.sdg.3-2-viz?lang=en>)
- Removes restrictions on annual and lifetime limits. Even the healthiest of us could have an unexpected event that would cause us to meet those limits quickly and quickly run into financial trouble.
- Removes the individual mandate. Insurance works because people who are healthier less risky help smooth out the spikes in the pools of people with are high risk. It makes the overall pool less expensive and ensures everyone is covered.

The Affordable Care Act isn't perfect. There is still work to be done and solutions that can be worked on in a bipartisan way. It's disappointing that Graham-Cassidy came forward in haste and scuppered the bipartisan discussions that were working towards improvements.

Please vote no on this bill and go back to the drawing board and work toward a good policy.

Melissa Swenson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Juan Giraldo [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:29 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.

[Juan Giraldo]
[Morgantown, WV]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helena Sznurkowski Berg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Greetings,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. To us, the most important aspect of the ACA is the protection of people with pre-existing conditions. Nearly 3 years ago, at age 35, my husband was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. At the time his doctors thought he might need to go on the heart transplant list, but due to excellent medical care (including a pacemaker and several medications) and his own hard work to maintain his health per doctors' orders, he is currently doing well. Should this ever change, as his doctors expect will happen someday, he needs to have access to the same excellent care that saved his life the first time around. I do not want to have to explain to our two young children that we lost their daddy because politicians and insurance companies didn't think it was worthwhile to protect people who need medical care. I know that my family is not unique; there are millions of people out there for whom the ACA is a matter of life or death. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Helena Berg
Dover, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fern Seltzer [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Please do not play politics with people's lives. Millions of people will suffer if this GOP plan goes through. It doesn't matter if people call themselves Democrats or Republicans - people will not vote for lawmakers who take away their family's health care.

Fern Seltzer
Vienna, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Davis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy Bill that would repeal the ACA. Obamacare has saved my life and I will be eternally grateful. I am just turning 65, and going on Medicare, so it is not for my own sake that I am concerned, but for all the Americans that will lose their health insurance. I don't know how you Republicans can live with yourselves. Your ethics and morals are so degraded. To be able to approve massive increases in military spending and yet not see that we can afford to give people health care as a right, not a luxury. If the Senators could separate themselves from the money interests of big medical business, they could see more clearly, to a just health insurance for Americans, as the rest of the developed nations have implemented.

Please look at your conscience and do what is honorable.

Thank you,
Terry Davis
Taos, New Mexico 87580

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Foote [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy comment

The Graham-Cassidy bill under consideration will pull insurance from over 30 million citizens.

I am opposed to it and will put my resources behind defeating anyone who votes for it.

--
Lisa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tracy Meyer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

Here are the reasons to vote "No" to this bill:

1. Has not been scored by the CBO
2. Is not bi-partisan - you should all work together, hold hearings, allow everyone to participate since it affects the entire country
3. Allows states NOT to cover pregnancy, newborn care, mental health services, etc.
4. "Adequate" and "affordable" coverage is left up to the states and is not guaranteed - MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD HEALTH INSURANCE OR HEALTH CARE COSTS
5. All 50 Medicaid directors oppose this bill
6. 31% cut to Medicaid for children
7. 15% cut to people with disabilities
8. Discrimination of people with pre-existing conditions will be allowed
9. Opioid epidemic funding is eliminated
10. AARP opposes this bill
11. Governors from CO, AK, LA, NV, OH, MT, VA, VT, MA and PA oppose this bill
12. The bill includes an age tax on seniors
13. People with metastatic cancer will pay \$142,650 more per year to get coverage
14. It defunds Planned Parenthood, which receives NOT ONE PENNY OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR ABORTION (which, by the way, is a LEGAL medical procedure)
15. Many hospital groups oppose this bill
16. Rural hospitals (already closing at an alarming rate) will not be able to stay in business

This bill will hurt your constituents! Fix the ACA, work across the aisle, act like United States Senators, not spiteful children.

Sincerely,

Tracy Meyer
Goochland, VA
US Army Veteran
Registered Nurse
VOTER

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: candi fluck <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

The only thing worse than this bill are the lies coming out of the mouths of members of Congress who are supporting it. We see you. We know what you're trying to do. Just stop this and work on a bipartisan fix to the ACA. Do it for the good of our country.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bradley Eardley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I'm 100% Opposed to Graham-Cassidy

From what I have read, Graham-Cassidy will lead to 21M more people losing insurance.

From what I have read, Graham-Cassidy will lead to removal of mandatory pharmaceutical coverage.

From what I have read, Graham-Cassidy cuts Medicaid matching.

From what I have read, Graham-Cassidy imposes a per capita cap on coverage, which would be disastrous for people with serious and complicated illnesses.

From what I have read, Graham-Cassidy removes the ACA's requirement that people with pre-existing conditions be covered at the same rate as healthy people.

From what I have read, Graham-Cassidy removes the ACA's requirement that maternity care, mental health care and substance use care all be covered in a plan.

I believe good healthcare is a right for all Americans. Graham-Cassidy is an enormous step backwards.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Curtis Plowgian [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hi, my name is Curtis Plowgian, and I am a veterinary dermatologist who lives in Kennesaw, Georgia. I am 33 years old, and throughout my life have lived in 6 different states, including on both coasts and in the Midwest. I have known people from many different backgrounds, both economically and geographically, and I understand how divided our country is on many issues, especially health care. I understand the desire of both parties to fulfill promises to their own base, so I do not begrudge the Republican party's efforts to fulfill a promise they have been making for the last 8 years, even though I disagree with them from a policy standpoint. What I cannot abide, however, is the process through which the GOP is trying to achieve their health care reform bills, including the latest iteration, the Graham-Cassidy bill.

When faced with the details of each of the last two Repeal and Replace attempts, the American public has soundly rejected them (with approval numbers sometimes below 20%). The Congressional Budget Office, as well as almost every major medical organization in the country, has come out in opposition to these bills, based on the number of Americans who would lose coverage, effects on premiums, and the negative (potentially fatal) outcomes for Americans with pre-existing conditions. This latest attempt, written and put to a vote before the CBO can even analyze it, seems like a rushed attempt to finish a project by a deadline, like an irresponsible college student who pulls an all-nighter to write a term paper and turns it in without even having the time to proofread it. It is likely that many of the senators who vote on this bill will do so before having a complete knowledge of its pros and cons, the opinions of their constituents, or possibly even the content of the bill itself. John McCain has come out in opposition to these irresponsible tactics, and I applaud and respect him for that.

The "deadline" that is approaching is somewhat self-imposed and artificial, in that after the deadline the only thing that will change is the number of votes required to pass the proposed legislation. I would imagine that passing a bill that requires 60 votes for cloture would assure a more bipartisan approach, taking into account the opinions of not only opposing sides, but also independent analysts and experts (such as the many medical organizations who have opposed each of the Repeal and Replace bills). When we are forced to compromise and work together, we are capable of producing laws and precedents that benefit a broader coalition, and have a chance of achieving more lasting progress and change. This is lawmaking as our Forefathers intended, and the reason that checks and balances, and tools such as the filibuster, exist in the first place.

In addition to the irresponsible approach that has been taken in trying to pass this legislation, the majority of Americans and medical experts are opposed to the content of this legislation, and with good reason. I personally have a coworker with malignant melanoma who would lose her health coverage if lifetime caps were re-instituted, and a self-employed friend from high school with a brain tumor who got his health insurance through the exchanges, which literally saved his life. If the marketplaces disappear and pre-existing conditions are no longer covered, he could face potentially fatal consequences. Everyone knows someone with a pre-existing condition, and to abandon these people to death or bankruptcy in exchange for tax breaks seems a short-sighted and heartless enterprise.

On a broader scale, in veterinary school I was taught about the concept of "herd health". With preventive care, such as vaccination and de-worming, for a population of individuals, you are able to create a protective effect that benefits the health of a whole population, even the weak and immune-compromised. While herd immunity doesn't always require that every individual be treated or vaccinated, the closer to 100% you are, the better, and for some diseases, dropping below 90% coverage can threaten even the vaccinated or treated individuals. This

doesn't only work for animals. Other developed countries who have universal health care not only spend less per capita on health care, they also have better medical outcomes, such as longer life expectancy, lower rates of infant mortality, and fewer deaths from preventable or treatable disease such as diabetes.

Prior to the ACA, there were 40 million Americans without health insurance. We have cut that number by more than 50%, but we should be trying to make that number smaller, not larger. Any bill that takes care away from tens of millions of Americans is moving our country in the wrong direction. While there is no CBO projection for the Graham-Cassidy bill, the abolition of Medicaid and the removal of hundreds of billions of dollars of health care funding is bound to strip millions of Americans of coverage.

I beg of you, for the sake of my friends and coworkers whose lives are at stake, for the sake of the herd health that benefits us all, and for the sanctity of the democratic process that our Forefathers strove to create, please vote NO against the Graham-Cassidy bill, and work in a bipartisan fashion to create a bill that more than 20% of Americans can agree upon. Thank you for your time, and God Bless the United States of America.

Curtis Plowgian, DVM

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Abdon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the Record Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

We have heard proponents calling for full repeal and replace for seven years now. Seven years. When the opportunity came to do just that with control of the House, Senate and Executive, this call was exposed as complete and utter bull feces. Instead of having worked for seven years on a workable plan, the American public realized that for seven years, nothing had been done. All that was done in that time was to create a false sense of fear and cries demonizing everything about ACA, even the parts that worked well and resulted in benefits to American citizens. Then, these proponents scrambled to draft a plan that, frankly, painted a good lesson in avoiding procrastination. If you wait until the last minute to do something that requires thorough research, analysis and thought, you end up with utter bull feces.

And what happened when the truth that they wasted seven years came out? They lashed out at American citizens for calling them out on their bull feces. They called people irresponsible. Some of your colleagues in Congress suggested that people should be more responsible - they should not buy cell phones and instead buy health coverage if their income does not allow them to do both (because we all know the costs of each equal exactly the same, right?). Kind of crazy to think that certain members of Congress that wasted seven years called others irresponsible. And, to top it off, each time their efforts failed, they came up with even worse options. You have citizens urging you to not play with their lives, and yet again that "you're irresponsible" call comes out and you insult them by making newer versions worse.

But this makes it even more important for these proponents to "win" (because who cares that so many will be impacted as long as a win happens now, right?). Therefore, the House passes a more procrastinated version of the bill and some very responsible congressional leaders celebrate and smile for the cameras over the fact that they are one step closer to negatively impacting the lives of millions of American citizens. But it doesn't matter, right? These citizens aren't responsible anyway because they buy phones (that are so crucial nowadays) instead of buying health coverage.

And then the bill comes to the Senate. Throughout all of this, the American people make their voices and opposition heard. They ask you to take this seriously. They ask you not to push a bill without being responsible - without hearings, without bipartisan analysis, they encourage a responsible bi-partisan effort. They call, they e-mail, they come to town halls, they stand in front of your offices, they protest. But that doesn't matter when yet another procrastinated version gets drafted. You decide it needs to happen in the middle of the night. Why? Is that the responsible thing to do?

Luckily, US Senators from Arizona, Alaska and Maine recognize that procrastination results in bull feces and that it's better to be responsible. And that night (or morning), bipartisan approach to fixing healthcare seemed to have a chance. We heard of willingness of people across the aisle to work together. And, surprisingly, we heard in the time that followed that this was happening.

Alas, now we learn that yet again, certain people didn't do their homework or consider the message that citizens across the country were sending to them as another version of repeal and replace was worked on. But this time, they had to be a little more responsible, right? They took the time go work on it, they'll be open to

bipartisanship and the results of the CBO analysis before they move forward, right? I guess I'm not as used to recognizing bull feces as I thought I was, because, again, it's even worse.

So please, Senate Finance Committee, I urge you to be responsible even if you don't think we are. Be responsible in recognizing that it takes longer than however long you're taking to draft these bills. Be responsible in considering that the majority of citizens live paycheck to paycheck. Be responsible and think about what the people want and not in your "win". Unlike us, your citizens (who you think want a choice between buying phones and health care), be responsible. Show us what being responsible looks like; do not pass Graham/Cassidy when it's being irresponsibly rammed for passage despite the negative impact it will have on citizens and the economy.

Sincerely,

Abdon (Someone who just typed bull feces more than he cared to, but that realizes that, unfortunately, it's exactly what all of this has turned into.)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JoAnne <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am emailing to express to you that I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy attempt to repeal the ACA. I am very fearful of this bill and the devastating effect it will have on Medicaid. Those funds are keeping my 98 year old mother in her home and providing home care aides to help with her care. Please work on the ACA to improve it, not dismantle it. This requires bipartisan efforts to meet the health care needs of all Americans.

Sincerely,
JoAnne Troll
Somerset, Pa

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rosanna Linnell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

I suffer from ALS, commonly know as Lou Gehrig's disease. I am currently on Medicare with a supplement. How will continue to have the coverage I need for my enormous health care bills when you take away the preexisting conditions exemption? The new ALS medication is \$140,000 per year how will I pay that and not become destitute?

Please reconsider and vote no on this bill. Work together to find an equitable solution for all Rosanna Linnell
503-704-4161

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheri Dussault <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Sheri Dussault Nashville, Tn

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lara Putnam <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fix the ACA; don't destroy the insurance system

Dear Senators,

As Pennsylvania voter and a mother of four, I am horrified by the push from Republican leadership to move forward to a vote on the Graham-Cassidy bill without even a full CBO score to evaluate the coverage loss or premium hikes that it would cause. It seems like you are playing politics with real people's lives.

Two weeks ago, my five year old daughter broke her arm falling off a slide. All I could think about as I raced her to the hospital was how terrifying it would have been to be uninsured, and to have had to choose between seeking the care I knew she needed, or rolling the dice and ignoring her pain, out of fear of disastrous unpayable bills.

What about all the mothers who have been able to get health insurance for the first time due to Medicaid expansion? How can you play cynical games with their families' lives--or pretend that billions of dollars in cuts aren't cuts if they don't kick in until a few years down the road?

To me, as a mother of a five year old, ten years doesn't seem like a far distant future or someone else's problem. In 2027 my daughter will only be 15 years old. What kind of future will she face? What kind of country will surround her?

America looks to its elected representatives to solve problems: not to play irresponsible games for partisan showmanship. Return to regular order and bipartisan hearings to stabilize the ACA now.

Sincerely,
Lara Putnam
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michele Occhiogrosso <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No to the current version of the health care bill

I am writing to urge you to reject the current version of the health care bill. It is bad for America and will leave millions without healthcare coverage or with coverage that is unaffordable.

Michele Occhiogrosso

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tannis reinhertz [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

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

Sincerely,

Tannis Reinhertz

Oakland, Ca

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Standal <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: REJECT Graham-Cassidy

Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
Full Name: Elizabeth Standal
Address: [REDACTED]

I'm submitting this comment on behalf of myself and my family members who have preexisting conditions. While all Americans will see their healthcare premiums rise under this bill, I understand that those of us with preexisting conditions will be subjected to even higher premiums at the discretion of our state of residence. Millions will lose healthcare.

I believe I belong to a typical family, not an unusual one. Everyone needs and deserves healthcare.

Here are some of the healthcare issues my family members and I--again, a typical family--are dealing with, or have dealt with:

- *Insulinoma (me)
- *Macular degeneration (my mother. This is hereditary, so my siblings and I may be affected, too.)
- *Fibromyalgia (my aunt)
- *Cerebral palsy (my cousin)
- *Substance abuse/addiction (my uncles)
- *Pregnancy (my mother, aunts, sister, cousin, etc.)
- *Skin cancer (my father)

What will happen to my all-American family if we lose our healthcare? How many bankruptcies? How many deaths? How many widows, widowers, and orphans? How much lost productivity?

The Graham-Cassidy bill is cruel and unusual punishment for all Americans for the non-crime of being human and subject to healthcare needs. Please DO NOT sign it into law. We can do better than this, and we deserve better.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Smiles [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:22 PM
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 my husband has a rare genetic condition which he can die from if he doesn't receive treatment regularly. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Smiles
Dedham, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelli Weiner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

My daughters and I have health issues that fall under 'pre-existing' and probably 'high risk' categories. This bill is potentially pre-mature death sentences for us, but definitely proposes to increase our premiums at best and cancellation of coverage at worst.

Our costs have been affordable under the Affordable Care Act. As a single mother of now grown children, my girls were able to stay on their father's policy until they were gainfully employed with coverage by their employers. My older daughter and I are self-employed and thus responsible for our own health insurance. Before ACA, my costs were twice what they are now.

Please leave the system in tact for those of us reliant on what it offers those of us not independently wealthy, with pre-existing conditions, without employer coverage, and with lower incomes.

Kelli Weiner
Woodbridge VA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mathew Thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:23 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.

Mathew Thomas
Ashburn, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: debra arnold <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health bill

1. I long for days of private health versus Medicare. At 64 I was a viable sexual human being. Under Government run Medicare I am asexual. No Cialis for my husband who has seizures med's that require the drug. I am prostituted at \$60 a pop to engage in sexual behavior with my own husband. I am quite sure if Government representatives had to live like this things would change. I paid \$192 per month for two people private insurance now I pay \$600 a month for two. Privately I had \$1,700 deductible. I now have Government run 1,200 deductible. I have been denied more medication than paid for. Denied cough medicine for bronchitis, nasal spray to dry up excessive mucous for severe laryngitis and thyroiditis, denied the only medication that works for me for Interstitial Cystitis, pay 400 a month for eye drops for glaucoma, had my husband refuse a drug for epilepsy because it was too high however he could kill the next person in a car accident because he took the cheaper non successful, drug.

2. If I had a choice I would go private , pay the two year higher rates giving the free market system time to correct itself and become more competitive.

3. Pay for existing conditions, take away health care to age 26 on parent policy. Force kids to get out of school quicker and be employed. A maid right here in our town makes 62,400 a year cleaning 10 big homes a week. I made less than that as a master's level speech pathologist in the public schools.

4. Medicaid with work requirement for able bodied people. Has to be capped or we will end up like Greece. There will be a come to Jesus moment when the money dries up. Insurance only goes to Legal citizens/ green card residents of this country.

5. I have to buy medical coverage to travel as Medicare doesn't cover out of country health, nor should America pay for non citizens. Other countries won't pay for me .

Debra Arnold

Resident of Goochland County Va

The best fiscally run Government , triple AAA bond rated, lowest taxes for any surrounding district It can be done if you have the guts, are principal driven, and not worried about your next reelection .

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gayla Gongwer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy HealthCare Bill

I am 150% against the passage of the current version of the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill. I agree with the statement made by my Senator, John McCain: This is an important decision that affects 1/5 of the American public and we cannot rush this vote merely to make a 9/30 deadline.

We need to reach a bipartisan solution with input from both parties, hearing, and debate. In addition, we cannot make an intelligent decision without a CBO score.

Gayla Gongwer
[REDACTED]
Tucson, AZ 85711

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Al Carlozzi [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

The citizens of our great country rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is time for a genuine bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. It's time for the grown-ups in Congress to prevail and find ways to work together to create a healthcare system that works for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Al Carlozzi and
Renee Marshall-Carlozzi
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Gilbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy comments

Senator Hatch,
Senator Grassley,
Senator Crapo,
Senator Roberts,
Senator Cornyn,
Senator Thune,
Senator Burr,

I am writing to provide comments on the proposed Graham Cassidy healthcare bill. It would adversely affect me and my loved ones in many ways:

- My disabled adult son counts on Medicaid to offset some of his medical costs. This bill clearly means lower funding for Medicaid in the future.
- My adult daughter and her husband were able to start a business 18 months ago partly because they could now purchase comprehensive health insurance for themselves and their children on the open market (exchanges). Prior to the ACA only limited forms of insurance were available to them and this bill allows insurance companies to return to that environment. Note that they didn't need or want a subsidy: just availability.
- Prior to the ACA, my brother and his wife could only purchase a very limited form of health insurance due to his heart condition, a so-called "pre-existing condition." With the ACA, more traditional health insurance is now available to them. At a minimum, this bill would raise their premiums substantially. Worse, it could allow insurance companies to find ways to charge even more exorbitant surcharges if they want to maintain coverage.
- As a senior, while I hope I never need it, I am very aware that more than half of all seniors in nursing homes are paid for by Medicaid. This bill severely threatens that coverage, which will be devastating to many.

There are certainly aspects of the ACA that can and should be improved. Please reject the proposed Graham Cassidy healthcare bill and apply your energies in that direction.

Respectfully,

William Gilbert



Warren, NJ 07059

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].org>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:32 PM
To: gchcomments; Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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

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

Thank you,



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Please consider the environment and the security of the information contained within or attached to this e-mail before printing or saving to an insecure location.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

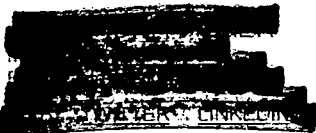
From: [REDACTED] alex.bisker@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My mother relied upon affordable care when she needed a hysterectomy. I relied upon it to get the medication I needed for depression. 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,

Alex Bisker
Brooklyn, NY



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham - Cassidy Bill

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

Sincerely,

Lucy Adams

New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

To Whom It May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. I therefore strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My son was born one month premature and spent the first week of his life closely monitored in the neonatal intensive care unit. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, today he is a happy, healthy nine-month-old who loves singing, being read to, and discovering new foods.

Without the healthcare available to us via the ACA, I shudder to think what my family would have done.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to strengthen the Affordable Care Act, not legislation to repeal it. If passed, Graham-Cassidy will hurt hundreds of thousands of Americans, including my family.

Sincerely,
Patrick Castillo
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

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. 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.

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.

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.

Respectfully,

Theodore M. Ingis, M.D.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep the Affordable Care Act!

Hello,

My name is Connie Hum and a number of my family members in California rely on affordable, quality healthcare. I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because it will put my family's health and financial standing in jeopardy as they have disabilities and pre-existing conditions, in which they rely heavily on insurance to help them afford healthcare.

I would much rather see a bipartisan Congress work to improve the Affordable Care Act, NOT repeal it.

Sincerely,
Connie Hum
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

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

Sincerely,

Liz Kunkle

Winnetka, IL

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham/Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

I live in Arizona and am proud that Senator McCain is voting against the Graham/Cassidy bill. These statistics from an AARP report show that the bill is a disaster for older Americans in these states, including mine, and is obviously harmful as well to everyone across the country.

Potential cost increases by state:

- AK: \$31,790
- AZ: \$22,074
- ME: \$16,437
- WV: \$18,462

Additionally, as a woman and supporter of Planned Parenthood and all women's health services, I believe the bill is cruel and discriminatory by allowing women's healthcare to become more unaffordable.

Please do not let the White House, GOP and Koch brothers bully you. Instead, do the right thing by not passing the Graham/Cassidy bill.

Thank you.

Jennifer Prentice

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

To whom it may concern:

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My elderly and disabled father relies on Medicaid. He has pre-existing conditions that might not be covered if ACA is repealed. If not for the ACA, my father wouldn't have been able to afford treatment after his stroke, due to a pre-existing heart condition. Additionally, the ACA ensures that my birth control is covered by my health insurance. That makes birth control accessible to many women across the nation, and we should not take that access away. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Emily Herranen

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Goerwitz <amy@goerwitz.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

Hello,

My family is fortunate to have an excellent health care insurance through an employer, but I have friends who are not as lucky. More than ever, we need quality and affordable health care coverage for all, not just the people who happen to work for certain employers.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will not solve our nation's health care issues. If anything, it will mean many people losing coverage; I have heard an estimate of 32 million people! Instead, I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA and build on its strengths, not to start over from scratch.

Improve ACA, not repeal.

Thank you.

Amy Goerwitz

Northfield, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ruth and [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. Massachusetts 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.

Respectfully,

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Magnuson <sharonmagn@aml.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Please do not pass this evil bill. The only good outcome of its passing would be that voters will make sure that Republican Congresspeople lose their jobs come 2018 & 2020. Then the reigning Democrats could reverse the new law and other Trump-era evil changes that were made.

Sharon Magnuson
Andover, Mass.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: At least Save Obamacare

Had it not been for Obamacare I'd have died two years ago of heart problems. GIVE US MEDICARE FOR ALL, PLEASE. - Sherrill Futrell, Davis, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Benjamin Lipscomb
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill.

Please do not push this through without the kind of normal-order review that Senator McCain has been championing. This is too important to do without compromise and collaboration, and we really do not need round after round of each party substituting something new for what the other party did last. Thanks for considering this.

Benjamin Lipscomb
Fillmore, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

I am a self-employed entrepreneur, a father, a registered unaffiliated voter, a Christian, and an American. In all of those capacities, I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. My parents are both self-employed, and my brother has had chronic health problems. The question of how to keep the family insured was a constant kitchen table issue in my youth. I don't have that worry today, thanks to the ACA. My daughter has an ACA plan. Please do not take that away from her, and from me. Please do the right thing for American entrepreneurs and parents. Please do the Christian thing and the American thing. Please protect our health insurance. Please protect the ACA. Thank you.

Steve Bird
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: david.sobilo <huskerpokey@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy bill

Our name is David/Maureen Sobilo and we live in Bellevue, NE. I am 68 years old and my wife is 67 years old.

Our son, Sean Patrick is 40 years old and is intellectually disabled. He functions between a 5 -9 year old child. He resides in a group home in Omaha, NE where he receives residential services. He is transported Monday - Friday to a workshop at Oriental Trading Company working for VODEC (Vocational Development Center) in an enclave. He receives these Medicaid funded services because he was born July 1977 mildly retarded with learning disabilities both speech and occupational while we were stationed at Bitburg Air Base, West Germany. We were there from 1975 to 1978. So he has had these pre-existing conditions for all of his 40 years.

Sean is able to receive these services in the community only because of Medicaid funding. Our understanding of the Graham - Cassidy bill is that Medicaid as we know it today will not exist. Funding will be significantly reduced and that the states would be allowed to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions. What would happen to people like Sean in the future. The state of Nebraska is already attempting to cut services to people with disabilities so if the Federal government and the state is successful where do we turn for services for our loved ones? This is why we are very concerned about this bill.

Who will advocate for these people in the future if we continue to cut funding. I would hope the Senate can do better than this bill!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dave Flower <dflower@harris.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: harris@harris.senate.gov; feinstein@senate.gov
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators:

I am a resident of the state of California living in Eastvale, CA 92880, in the 42nd Congressional District.

I oppose the Graham, Cassidy, Heller Healthcare bill for reasons far too numerous to include in this message, but primarily due to the concerns that it's not about healthcare as much as wealth redistribution.

I urge you to abandon this dangerous bill and return to the BiPartisan process that has already begun, but was forced to stop!

Sincerely,
David Flower

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Garham-Cassidy hearing

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My partner and many of my friends will lose coverage if this bill passes, due to pre-existing conditions and/or expense. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve and expand the ACA, not repeal it.

This bill is unpatriotic and inhumane. Health care should be a human right.

Sincerely,

Jessica Halpern-Finnerty

Berkeley, CA


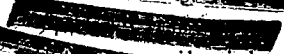

[REDACTED]
Je
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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Valeria Mogilevich [mailto:vmogilevich@valerianamogilevich.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 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 took two years to build up my career as a freelancer in design for social impact and could not have improved my skills while making very little without the safety net of Medicaid. Now, I am better equipped to contribute to an organization which helps advocates better do their work, and I'm armed with a whole new set of practical skills. I would not have been able to help others without the help of Medicaid. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Valeria
New York, NY




valerianamogilevich.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Best,

Nancy Reed, M.D.

[REDACTED] Medical Psychiatric Associates

[REDACTED] Madison St, Suite 320

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@millerpellicallaw.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 10
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing Statement from someone born disabled

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

[REDACTED]

I am writing as someone born with a permanent disability to beg you to not go forward with the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Without the ACA, I will, once again, become a burden to the state. To say nothing of the compassionate needs of living in a society, the fact that most of the Western world has guaranteed healthcare with much success, and that a huge majority of Americans want a single-payer option--I'm only going to tell you my story.

I was born with a rare joint condition that is very painful, extremely debilitating, and will only get worse as I age. To add insult to injury, I developed an autoimmune disease that attacks my joints and organs in a different way, also with great amounts of pain. I walk with a cane, use a wheelchair when I need to, and I don't have enough control of my hands to feel safe driving.

For years, I was completely unable to enter the workforce like the rest of my peers. I relied on SSI benefits, food stamps, and Medicaid to survive. It was certainly never a lot of money and I could never afford my own apartment, but I am endlessly grateful that I did not end up homeless. I figured I'd be stuck on benefits my whole life and I hated that.

Because of the care I was able to get from Medicaid, my condition stabilized. It didn't really get better, but it stopped getting worse.

Because of my state's Vocational Rehabilitation program, I am now working.

I am no longer on SSI or food stamps. I support myself completely. I'm excited to pay my quarterly taxes because all I've wanted for so long is to be able to contribute. The only thing that makes this possible is my healthcare. I am still on the version of Medicaid that allows disabled workers to stay on until you earn over a certain amount of money. Next year I will break that income limit and lose my Medicaid.

And that's okay. That's the process of the system. With the ACA, I will be able to buy a plan on the Marketplace that I will pay for. It will be expensive, but I can budget for that. I'm used to living on a very tight budget.

Without the ACA, I will have a devastating choice to make. It won't be a matter of if I should stop working, but how sick I will allow myself to become before I stop. I will be earning just too much for Medicaid (if it's even an option with all the cuts) and without the protections for preexisting conditions, I will be unable to access the

healthcare I need. Without my maintenance medications, my condition will deteriorate. If my unchecked autoimmune disease spreads to my organs, it has the potential to become fatal.

Without my medications, I will become all but bedridden again and too sick to work. I will have to give up the job I have fought so hard for and try to go back on disability just to pay for food and rent.

I have done everything right. It would have been easier to simply stay on SSI, but I didn't want that. I worked hard. I fought. I change my life, improved my circumstances, and am now finally in the position where I can contribute both in taxes and in money spent into the economy. I'm a success story.

I'm fairly certain I'm an example of the "American Dream." But if the ACA is repealed, all that goes away.

I know that this is an important issue to a lot of people and an urgent need for many in the government to repeal the ACA. I get that there's stress and pressure there. But I'm watching so many people in my generation live in fear, knowing their healthcare could be gone. The feeling of knowing that the people in Washington, who are there to represent you, want to take away this healthcare system that has helped so many is a pain and sense of powerlessness that I don't think you can even imagine. These are real people. Many of them are small business owners. Some of them have children. People born with disabilities like me and others who have conditions that require medications to function. This is not a matter of stress and pressure, this is genuine fear and knowing that people, people we may know, will actually die without the ACA.

When I was younger and resisting filing for disability, I was crying in my doctor's office, telling him I just wanted to find a way to work.

My doctor said to me, "You never had a chance. You were dealt a bad hand."

I'm tearing up now thinking about it. Access to healthcare ought to be a right. Being born with a disability, which is no one's fault, doesn't make me deserve to be homeless and untreated. I didn't have a chance. I had to rely on the government for help while my doctors sought to find the right treatment. My Medicaid eventually gave me that chance. And I took it.

I am a proud tax payer. I am disabled. And I am a voter. We all deserve this chance.

If you are unmoved and this is still so important, please give the bill the full scrutiny of the law by following standard rules of order instead of pushing to squeeze a vote in before the end of September on a technicality.

Wait for the CBO report. Understand fully what you're doing.

Because I think if you fully understand the impact of this bill on real people, you wouldn't be able to stomach it.

Thank you very much for your time.

Kay V. Braeburn

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I write to express my fervent opposition to the Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill.

I am a California resident. As a self-employed person, I rely on the individual insurance market for my medical insurance. I have been deemed by insurance companies as having a "pre-existing" condition. Despite being deemed to have a pre-existing condition, I am not sick nor does the alleged condition require me to take any medications or undergo any sort of medical treatment. Prior to the enactment of the ACA, being labeled as having a pre-existing condition subjected me to significantly increased premiums (from 25-35% each year) and prevented me from changing insurance companies. Since the ACA my premium increases have been reduced significantly and I have been able to change insurance companies whenever I choose. While my insurance plan did change when the ACA was enacted, the plans I have had since, were far better - no more lifetime limits, caps on yearly out-of-pocket expenses, preventative care cheaper, among other things.

I understand that not everyone has not been as lucky as me and that there are issues with the ACA in some states (mostly because those states chose not to take advantage of the ACA). This, however, is no reason to blow up the ACA. It should instead, be fixed through bi-partisan consensus.

Graham-Cassidy will harm millions of people and will be particularly devastating to the State of California. It is my understanding, that starting in 2018, this bill would prohibit any exchange plans from including abortion coverage. By law, California requires all plans on the exchanges to offer abortion coverage. Thus, my insurance plan would become illegal on January 1, 2018. There is no time between now and then for California to fix this problem. So I ask you, what do you propose Californians do for insurance coverage?

Even if this issue were fixed, this bill will significantly reduce federal funding to California. You can complain all you want about how California gets more money than other states (I find it telling that Lindsay Graham felt it necessary to describe California as that big "blue" state). California gets more funding because it has a larger population than most of the "red" states and because our state government actually cares about its people and expanded Medicaid coverage. California pays far more in taxes to the federal government than it gets back. As a person of means, I am happy to do this so long as the money is put to good use. In return, all I expect is that my government not do harm to me or others. Gutting funding for healthcare does the exact opposite (perhaps if you Republicans are really so concerned about fiscal responsibility, you could tell Trump to stop traveling every weekend or ask Tom Price to fly commercial instead of chartering a private jet).

This bill has an approval rating of just 24%. It has been clear through this entire process that bill is being pushed by Republicans for purely political gain. Your job is not to appease your wealthy donors, it is to help the American people. As has been made clear through numerous statements from Senate Republicans and the Trump administration your only mission is to get a "win." At least Chuck Grassley, was honest about it when he said "You know, I could maybe give you 10 reasons why this bill shouldn't be considered, but Republicans campaigned on this so often that you have a responsibility to carry out what you said in the campaign." While I applaud Mr. Grassley for his honesty, this is not an acceptable reason to vote for a bill that will harm millions and millions of people. Perhaps you all should have thought of this before spending the last 8 years lying about the ACA.

Stop worrying about whether you will be re-elected and start doing something that actually helps the American people!
Sincerely,

[REDACTED] 129

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy ACA Repeal--this will harm so many people

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

*As a family physician (and **as someone who has worked for 42 years at a community health center in Worcester**) 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, Massachusetts, 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 year.*

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.

[REDACTED] M.D.
[REDACTED] Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
[REDACTED] Professor of Massachusetts Medical School
[REDACTED] Health Center of Worcester
[REDACTED]@massmed.org

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: A.Lisser@achsser@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments; Pearson, Beth (Warren)
Subject: OPPOSE Graham -Cassidy

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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

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

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

*Sincere,
Dr. Amy Lisser,
Newton, MA*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: foyeskydive@aol.com
Subject: Fwd: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Mary Jo
Foye

[REDACTED]

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

My name is Mary Jo Foye. I live in Muskego with my husband and three sons, ages 19, 18 and 15. My oldest son, John, has severe cognitive and physical disabilities and is medically fragile. He requires 24/7 skilled care. He has an extremely rare genetic disorder and because of this he requires a tracheostomy for breathing, a feeding tube for nutrition and a wheelchair for mobility. He communicates using nonverbal and augmentative communication assistance and requires 1:1 personal assistance and skilled care for accessing school and the community. He has 10 specialists that he sees for his medical care, including pulmonology, cardiology, nephrology, hematology, orthopedics, to name a few. He is on multiple medications to manage his respiratory status, GI, blood pressure and other issues. He receives therapies. He is involved with Special Olympics. He loves going to social functions including The Night to Remember Prom for young adults with special needs. He is currently transitioning into an ongoing community based program that will help to give him a meaningful and happy life. We are hoping this includes a mix of social and community activities as well as volunteer or paid employment as a companion for older people with Alzheimer's or dementia.

His medical care, skilled and personal care, medications, therapies, day programs and activities are currently covered by the Family Care Program which is funded by Medicaid. We have worked with Family Care to provide a meaningful life for John. It hasn't always been easy. Both my husband and I have had to cut back on work and career goals with decreased hours, income and insurance coverage, relying on the market place for our own health insurance. We have had to fight and work to get coverage for needed equipment and therapies. We frequently visit an equipment lending facility in Waukesha to get equipment and supplies that are not covered. Family Care has worked well with the funding they have, helping us get what we need to support John. The Affordable Care Act has worked very well for the rest of our family. The bill to cut Medicaid programs in Wisconsin is very concerning to our family and our many friends who use Medicaid programs for themselves or their loved ones with disabilities. Estimated cuts to WI are \$1 billion over the next ten years. John and so many others need supports funded by Medicaid. Medicaid pays for his school therapies, medical supplies, medications and support his adult life including his no one can reassure us that cuts won't impact him. It truly seems unreasonable to me that anyone could assure us that a \$1 billion cut would not impact people like John who can have very costly and essential supports - especially since Wisconsin has already moved to managed care for Medicaid. There simply isn't much "fat" to cut: certainly not \$1 billion worth.

I have no idea where we would be without Medicaid.

That's why what is happening thousands of miles away in Washington, DC this week is so personal to families like mine. The debate over whether to call it a "cut" or a "slowing of growth" or "reduced reimbursement" does not change the fact that multiple non-partisan experts predict that Wisconsin and all other states will receive significantly less federal monies for Medicaid over the next ten years. Wisconsin specifically stands to lose \$2,909,000,000 (or nearly \$3 billion) by 2027 and \$29 billion by 2036.

Families like mine are tired of the rhetoric.

Wisconsin did not take the Medicaid expansion dollars, we have been extremely efficient with our Medicaid funding, we have eliminated waiting lists for adults with disabilities (and propose to do the same for children in this state budget.) We are a leader in the nation. Why are we being punished in the bill being pushed through the U.S. Senate?

Reducing federal Medicaid funding permanently will not help Wisconsin continue to innovate and meet the needs of our state residents. It will not protect optional services like therapies for children, autism services, Katie Beckett 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.

This bill will have far reaching negative effects on the lives of so many. Not only will it severely negatively affect John's life but without the caregivers and supports he receives my husband and I would need to assume that roll and It would affect our ability to work outside of the home, send our other children to college, pay for our own health care...the ripple effect is wide and negative.

Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Thank you for your time,
Mary Jo
Foye



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, we oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We wish to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Nicole Krider

Louisville, KY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
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 13 year old son was born with a severe birth defect, a diaphragmatic hernia. His initial surgery and first hospital stay alone cost over \$250,000. Private health insurance has paid for every issue caused by his difficult start, and he is now a healthy thriving 13 year old who makes straight As in school and has a bright future ahead of him and much to contribute to American society. Without the ACA, or better still a single payer system, he will never be able to acquire health care in his adult life because of his pre-existing conditions. He will have to leave the country in order to have a decent quality of life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Fiona Somerset

Mansfield, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Johanna Kadlec <jokadlec1447@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good Afternoon,

I am writing today because the effort to repeal ACA once again is distressing me.

My family, as well as millions and millions more Americans- rely on quality, affordable healthcare. For this reason I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It would make healthcare a priviledge for the rich and would DEVESTATE millions of Americans.

While ACA is not perfect, it cannot be repealed. It is too important. I would support a bipartisan effort to improve upon ACA, and expand coverage and affordability.

We can do this. We must.

Thank you,

Johanna Kadlec

St. Paul, Minnesota

--

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Trumpcare!

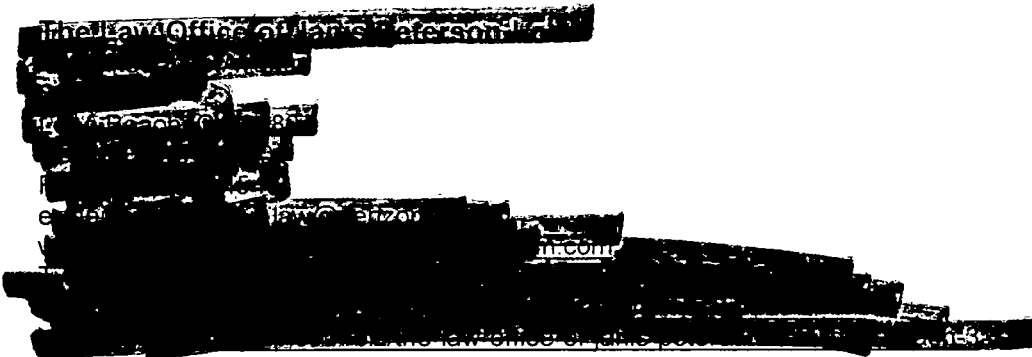
Dear Sir or Madam

My elderly stepfather relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. He may require Medicaid in the future and I am concerned that it will not be here for him.

In addition I have direct experience with the pre-existing conditions prohibition that used to exist before ACA. I had a breast biopsy in 1981 that proved to be fibrocystic disease and not malignant. Since then no problems, but for years I was declined coverage by Blue Cross, Blue Shield due to what they determined to be this preexisting condition, claiming I was more susceptible to getting breast cancer. I had to buy a crappy policy for the self-employed called Mega Health and Life for years.

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

Very truly,
Janis Peterson-Lord



This e-mail is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited by law, and that such email should be returned or destroyed if delivered to an unintended recipient.

Please note that we have a new address! When you come to our office you are welcome to park in the space indicated for our office, which is the first one on the left. When you come to the door, scroll where indicated by pressing 3, find our name and then press # for calling and it will connect you to our office to open the door for you. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ~~Kat Corrigan <katcorr@olmna.net>~~
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: About Healthcare~

I and my immediate family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is that as a twenty year old, I relied on free health clinics for my health care and I used the Red Door clinic in Minneapolis for reproductive health. My 77 year old mother is dealing with a terrible surgery on her foot, needing orthopedics and repeated surgeries just to be able to walk again. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Kat Corrigan
Minneapolis, MN

“You must not ever stop being whimsical. And you must not, ever, give anyone else the responsibility for your life.”
– Mary Oliver, Wild Geese

~~katcorr@olmna.net~~
~~www.katcorrigan.com~~

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Members of my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My experience with family members with pre-existing conditions and disabilities and their need to be eligible for affordable healthcare is part of my reason for opposing this bill. The other part is the complete lack of transparency and due diligence. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Amendment

To Whom It May Concern,

I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Amendment, which would violate the health care imperative of "first do no harm," and would result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage, destabilize health insurance markets, and decrease access to affordable coverage and care.

In other words, bullshit. If you truly work for the American people you would see basic health care as a right, not a business. Now get to work doing something to improve American lives versus working to improve the pocketbooks of big business and wealthy individuals.

Sincerely

Libbey Paul
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

A good friend of our family, Jack, was diagnosed with Hunter's Disease, an enzyme deficiency, almost 12 years ago. Children with this disease often do not live to see their teenage years. Several years ago he began an enzyme replacement treatment. We believe this treatment has significantly extended his life expectancy and improved his quality of life. He just celebrated 11 years of receiving these treatments and just started his sophomore year of high school.

Rare disease patients like Jack 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. If this bill is passed, we fear Jack's family would be unable to afford his life-saving treatment.

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. Kiersten Lowe
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on this bill

I am a long time healthcare provider in a critical access hospital in Vermont. I have practiced for more than 25 years and am writing to firmly oppose this bill.

The ACA, while not perfect, has stabilized many aspects of health care delivery in this state. Had Marco Rubio not thrown a wrench into the risk pools a few years ago the bill would have been working better than it is.

Embarking on major entitlement reform by gutting Medicaid and destabilizing markets is a cruel, shortsighted JOB KILLING bill. My hospital is by far the biggest employer in this area. This bill puts my hospital at risk. You should be thinking of your constituents who overwhelmingly oppose this rather than serving the Kochs to the tune of billions in GOP donations.

This is a shameful bill and sham of a process.

Katherine A Silta

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill
Attachments: GrahamCassidy Bill.docx

Good Afternoon Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Attached is a letter from Victory Human Services, Inc. in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

We thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns on behalf of our organization, our clients and the millions of Americans who would be negatively impacted by this bill.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday Graham-Cassidy hearing

To whom it may concern:

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is offensive to see legislators advancing a bill that would unjustly condemn people with pre-existing conditions, undermine Medicaid and sabotage the accessibility of healthcare for those who most need it. In short, I would like to see a thoughtful and bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you.

Helen Wagenvoord
Petaluma, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to urge a NO vote on the Graham-Cassidy bill. My mother relies on the quality healthcare she receives as a direct result of the Affordable Care Act. As a 57-year-old cancer survivor, it allows for her to afford health insurance. The Graham-Cassidy bill would allow for insurance companies to raise her rates beyond her means. It would literally kill her and millions of others like her. I am also disturbed that the Senate is considering voting for something whose implications have not been fully realized through a complete analysis via CBO. Healthcare is a complex topic, and we are not going to make lives better just by rushing through this process just so you don't need 60 votes to pass. This is shameful.

Prof. Michelle Greene
Lewiston, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alan Lau <alan.lau@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I am against the Graham-Cassidy bill

Please do not repeal the ACA. I know it's not perfect, but it's imperfections can be fixed without scrapping the entire bill, and leaving millions of Americans without healthcare insurance. The ACA is a good start. Please do what's best for America, and not what's best for your party.

Sincerely, Alan Lau

Windsor, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Kubey, karenkubey@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare and believe that everyone in America deserves access to healthcare as a human right. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Karen Kubey

Brooklyn, New York

[Redacted]

--
[Redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alexandria Dumar93@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on Graham-Cassidy Hearing

To whom it may concern,

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

Myself and several members of my family carry a BRCA1 mutation that makes us extremely susceptible to breast and ovarian cancer. Fortunately, many of us have been able to have preventative surgeries, and those surgeries are covered by insurance. However, even with insurance, our medical costs are extremely high through copays. People like us who do not have insurance are unlikely to be able to afford the preventative care that is needed for us to avoid getting cancer. Without protection of pre-existing conditions, those of us who get cancer would find it impossible to get health insurance. Any healthcare policy that would make insurance more expensive, cause people to lose health insurance, and/or lessen protections for pre-existing conditions is extremely detrimental to the health and well-being of people like me. The Graham-Cassidy bill would do all three.

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

Sincerely,
Alexandria Dumar
Delafield, WI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

My husband and I and my elderly mother-in-law, who we help to support and who has lung cancer and diabetes and is on many medications, 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,

Jill Freshney

New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My mother is a cancer survivor and any disruption to the rules for pre-existing conditions or to our ability to afford comprehensive healthcare could have a permanent and detrimental affect on our wellbeing. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Joshua Ferguson

Chicago, Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Caitlin Meissner <caitsmeissner@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a working artist and contribute most of my time to community work, teaching children and adjuncting at university level. If I lose my access to healthcare, which I can barely afford at present, I will not be able to treat a debilitating condition of painful psoriasis or a viral disease I need daily meds for. This will leave me in constant pain and unable to work at ALL, and the thought alone makes me feel crazy enough to consider not wanting to live, if that will be my reality. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please do not leave millions of us to live in fear, deep pain and very realistically for many, die. Just writing this I am crying for the state of my own life, but for so many others. This bill is cruel. Please think beyond a very small pool that would benefit, and consider our larger humanity. I beg you.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Meissner

New York, NY

caitsmeissner.com

**Communication is important to me. Please feel free to nudge if response is slow!*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I support medicare for all.

I want to register my comments here. I feel that we should all have access to medical care. I am very upset with the current bill that the Republicans have put forward to limit access to healthcare.

Here in West Virginia, we have the Medicaid expansion and more West Virginians than ever have access to healthcare as a result. We need for everyone to have access, no matter what their income level is.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Huntington, WV 25701

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:04 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. susan rump
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

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

Sincerely,

Christa Brelsford

Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] pestananoah@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Finance Committee:

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

Many insurance companies, healthcare providers, and every Medicaid official has come out against this bill. It is about damn time that you start listening to professionals.

My entire life I have been debilitated by asthma, it has been a struggle for my family to afford the meds I needed when I lived at home and even harder since I moved away. The ACA allowed me to get my meds even when I was between jobs.

Because of this, I could work more often and was eventually able to pay for my own insurance. But I know that I'm lucky, people still need the support of the ACA

This bill does not provide that support, it will force millions to decide between food and medicine and that crushes my soul.

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

Sincerely
Noah Pestana
Charleston WV

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Donald Morrison

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
West Windsor, São Paulo 05089

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

My immediate and extended family rely on having quality affordable healthcare. I have one niece with pervasive developmental disorder, causing issues with intellect, motor development, speech, etc. Because of her many medical needs one parent must stay home to oversee and advocate for her medical care. Luckily the other parent is working in a good job that provides affordable healthcare. My niece has made tremendous strides and will have significantly less need for services as she ages because she was able to access this help early. I have another niece who struggles with mental illness - she is a fighter, but it is a constant, expensive battle even with the good, affordable insurance my brother has access to.

In my immediate family, my older son spent a month in the hospital at age 1 due to a joint infection. Again, we had good, affordable healthcare at the time or the month long stay in the hospital could have easily wiped out the finances of our then young family. If we had not been able to afford that care or had put off going to the doctor because we didn't have insurance, he could have ended up with a permanent disability from an arm that didn't grow properly. Our other son developed OCD in elementary school. The fear that occurs when a bright, cheerful child becomes virtually non-functional is difficult to describe. Having access to health care that provided treatment for this devastating disease meant that he got treatment early and has gone on to become a hard-working, self-supporting member of society. Without access to this treatment (and that means affordable healthcare), he could easily have needed government support for the rest of his life.

Affordable healthcare should be available to everyone in the United States and should include care for the issues affecting both men and women (no things like birth control and maternity care aren't "extras" just because they don't apply to men, just like prostate care isn't an "extra" because it doesn't apply to women) and both physical and mental health. A patchwork plan made up of different types and levels of coverage in individual states means people get widely varying healthcare depending on where they live. Moving into a state that offers better coverage often isn't an alternative, especially for our most vulnerable citizens and it shouldn't be necessary to access decent medical care. Block grants ignore the fact that people need different levels of support depending on their health each year. Plans with premiums that are sky-high if you have a pre-existing condition are not accessible healthcare anymore than a \$5 million dollar mansion is accessible to everyone just because it is for sale.

The essence of insurance is that we all pay in, even when we don't need all the services, so that those who do need them (and eventually almost all of us will be in this category) can access them. When tragedies such as Harvey and Irma hit, I hear politicians talking about how important it is to come together to help our fellow Americans any way we can, including sending millions (or billions) of tax dollars. I don't disagree, but why then are we not willing to use our tax dollars to ensure that all Americans have basic, decent, affordable healthcare to avoid preventable medical tragedies and to help them if they suffer an unavoidable one.

I believe that it is essential that Republicans and Democrats work together in a bipartisan effort to improve on the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Latham

Groveland, Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I feel despair for all those who rely on Obamacare to have access to (relatively) affordable healthcare. Why are millions of people being actively punished for not having a lush corporate health plan. My daughter worked for a small, independent bookstore that could afford only the barest of policies. Without Obamacare, she would have had to leave this small business, as would other employees. My son is an adjunct university professor. Again, he relies on Obamacare as his employer does not offer him a policy. Why punish hard-working Americans? Why punish those in low-wage jobs who need Medicaid? Why punish those who have profited less from the American economy? Why punish veterans struggling to find their place in the economy? Oh, right, tax cuts for wealthy people and corporations.

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

We don't know the full picture, because the Republicans can't wait for that information. It is insane.

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

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tina Cannon Leahy
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Preserve the Affordable Care Act and then improve it for all Americans

Honored Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Like many Americans, my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare, including wellness care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My Uncle has diabetes and several close family friends are cancer survivors, so it is critically important that people cannot be discriminated against because of pre-existing conditions. These aren't statistics, actuarial tables, or profit centers. They are valued human lives. But even fiscally it makes sense. Just last year I had a scare with a mass in my breast that was detected early due to regular checkups. Early detection is the best way to prevent later and much more expensive treatments. So, minimum standards for policies are essential. Also, my son is still in college and we've been able to keep him on our policy. This has saved us thousands of dollars because he cannot afford a policy of his own and adding him a much less expensive option and gave him comprehensive coverage. I join the vast majority of Americans who would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Tina Cannon Leahy

Sacramento, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: WHY MEDICAID MATTERS TO ME

Laci D Wilkins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal Monday , September 25,2017

To who this may concern ,

Hi my name is Laci D Wilkins.
I am 34 years old and I have been living with Epilepsy for 32 years.
I have been on medicaid since I was 7 years old.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Medicaid has helped me more then I can say.
I joined the Inland Regional Center in 2003.

They gave me hope.
They trained me in different fields for job placement.
They gave me the confidence and the training on how to live independently.
Not only that but I have always felt that I was the only one that is in this position.
After joining Regional Center.I have met a lot of people that are in similar situation as me.
I also joined the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles Ca.
It is a huge blessing that these companies are out there to help those who are in desperate need.
With medicaid I have been able to get the treatments and medications and services I need.
Medicaid is a very very big blessing.
I have been on disability most of my life.
Without medications which I personally can't afford, I know for a fact that I wouldn't be able to survive!
The government makes it to impossible to get off.
I am Strongly asking congress to STOP and think before you make a decision about if you your self were in the situation where you weren't capable of working .
(What would you do?)
(Who would you turn to for help?)
I am STRONGLY asking congress to support Medicaid and other programs that are out there , for the American Citizens that are on disability that are not capable of working and not the illegals.

SINCERELY : Laci D Wilkins

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. There is no way that we could afford our health insurance premiums if the subsidies weren't there. And we both have pre-existing conditions, which will make it all the more likely we could not afford insurance going forward.

Please do not go forward with this horrendous, immoral bill that will imperil the health and well-being of so many Americans. As one human being to another, I beg you to vote NO. There's no tax cut that is worth this level of inhumanity.

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

Sincerely,

Carolyn Schapker

Accord, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I refuse Graham-Cassidy Bill

I refuse to accept this appalling bill that will allow so many Americans to suffer and die by cutting funding, not guaranteeing the same coverage at the same price for people with pre-existing conditions and by capping benefits so that people needing several expensive treatments will be cut off after one or two. States should not make these decisions, health care should be guaranteed to all Americans by the federal government.

Sincerely,
Sloan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: World Trade Center survivor

My husband was in the World Trade Center both times it was bombed. He survived but has medical issues. Through the ACA, he was able to afford health insurance. If this bill is allowed to pass, he will lose his insurance. It would be disgraceful if our country allowed this to happen.

Cheryl Krist
The Bronx, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

I am a nurse who has worked both long-term care and emergency in Montana's rural Critical Access hospitals. This bill threatens our very existence. 60% of our nursing home residents have services covered by Medicaid, services that would be cut drastically under GCH. These are people in their 80's and 90's who have worked hard their entire lives, and many of them are Veterans. If our facility were to close (a likely scenario under GCH) these people would be force to move 50 miles away, essentially cutting them off from their extended families.

OUR SENIORS DESERVE BETTER!

There is a reason that EVERY medical association in America has taken a stand against this bill because of its' devastating effects on people and families. This is not just about dollars, this is about people's lives. Even if it were, a yes vote on this bill, one that would impact 1/6 of the American economy, without proper hearings and debate, and without a CBO score, is incredibly fiscally irresponsible and reckless.

I stand with the American Nurses Association, and urge you to vote NO on GCH.

Ann Marie O'Donnell, RN BSN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

My neighbors, family, friends, and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I'm specifically thinking of my friend Julia, whose lupus and other health issues require expensive medication and treatment. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Taylor

Glen Ellyn, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans.

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

It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

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

Laura Shapiro

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] m>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Villanueva, Josie (Duckworth)
Subject: Cassidy Health care bill

Dear Senators,

As a nurse I saw many babies born severely sick and by the time they got home they had already lost their health insurance. I was almost in tears when Obama care past because I knew I would never have to see this again. There were times where we would have triplets and one child will be on public aid and the other two on the parents insurance. What does that look like? The parents having go to many different doctors because not everyone will take Medicaid. Please stop this bill from passing. It helps no one. As a Christian I am appalled that any God loving Christ following person would feel taking health insurance from people is OK. It is not. Past something that gives every American health insurance.

Sincerely,

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

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: P [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: Rita Kramen
Cc: Dixon & Cheryl Arevalo; gchcomments; dperez2311@comcast.net; carolle@sbcglobal.net; pacqwst110309@live.com; pcahillf@gmail.com; susan@cornellweb.us; kandb5353@att.net; gm2270@sbcglobal.net; rhoblin@att.net; rholzen1@gmail.com; bonitamamula@hotmail.com; asmith6226@sbcglobal.net; mimipzz@yahoo.com; jeherzing@comcast.net; barb111004@gmail.com; werussells@yahoo.com; martha@wisemantech.com
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill

We agree. Bill and I are also opposed to the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. If you view Jimmy Kimmel's video on YouTube-- Bill Cassidy's Health Care bill- you will see the excellent reasons Kimmel gave for opposing the bill. He's done research on this because he's concerned about people and their children who may have pre-existing conditions like his son has-- who would be denied health care under this proposed bill. Check out the video!

Pat Z.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 23, 2017, at 12:49 PM, Rita Kramen [REDACTED]

I am with you!

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 23, 2017, at 9:28 AM, Dixon & Cheryl Arevalo [REDACTED] wrote:

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have medicare and medicare advantage for my supplement. My husband and I could withstand an increase (even a substantial one), but not the loss of conscience demonstrated by Chuck Grassley's quote that basically states the bill is probably bad, but is a response to the base who voted for it. The majority of citizens do not want to eliminate the ACA. They want it improved. Grassley's base results in a dictatorship by the few (supported by the Koch Bros. funding to brain-wash those who respond to sound bites and not reason.)

I stand with John McCain who opposes it based on it not being bi-partisan and not evaluated for cost, impact on the presently insured etc. by the CBO.

Cheryl Arevalo

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The current version of Trumpcare continues to be an "Eliminate Care" plan. It not only takes away health care from millions it has some rewards for the wealthy. This is not reflective of the America I believe in. It is cruel, selfish and undemocratic. The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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

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

Vonza Thompson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ad

[REDACTED] 95092-940

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Trump Care (Cassidy-Graham Bill)

To Whom It May Concern:

As a 71-year-old woman with a pre-existing condition, I am begging you: **DO NOT PASS THIS BILL!** Having read and followed as many opinions as I could on this bill, it is abundantly clear this bill will not cover those of us in this country who need coverage the most. It is an outrage the Republican party is only out for the win, at the expense of all others, except for the rich and privileged.

PLEASE THINK OF US REGULAR FOLKS - AND DON'T LIE TO US - STEP UP AND BE THE RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE YOU CLAIM TO BE!!

Thank you.
Marty Powell

Marty Glass Powell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <kathy.schuurman@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

I continue to be disturbed and upset by the process that is being used to push through the Repeal and Replacement of the ACA. Because of a procedural deadline and because of pressure from GOP donors, your committee is fast tracking this new bill, disregarding the majority of the American people and many, many organizations who find this bill unacceptable.

I was encouraged to see the bi-partisan committee working together to find solutions. But, that encouragement was very short lived.

As Senator McCain states, "It's time Congress returns to regular order.....letting committees of jurisdiction do the principal work of crafting legislation and letting the full Senate debate and amend their efforts."

I agree! Health care is 1/6 of our economy, we need debate and amendments!

I urge you, I implore you.....return to regular order and put all proposals on the table for debate.

Sincerely,
Kathy Schuurman
Northfield, MN 55057

--
"But there is still one more thing I have to do, I have to do something to make the world more beautiful!" ~
Miss Rumphius (The Lupine Lady)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public comment on Graham-Cassidy

I have been thinking of all the very many people I know who would be adversely affected by the Graham-Cassidy Bill. My own family would be OK, but I am so concerned for my friends and fellow-Americans across the land. *Please*, do healthcare right for our nation and not as a political move intended solely to garner votes from a small base (and ironically they would probably be the ones to be adversely affected by it).

Sincerely,
Lesley Boyland, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't repeal ACA

Hello there,

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, Rachelle Cruz

Anaheim, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Anfuso - wlad@earthlink.net
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't take away my medical treatment!

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

I have mitochondrial disease. It's a genetic defect. I was born with it. My average monthly medical expenses are around \$8,200. This year my costs have exceeded \$200,000.

I am tired of second-rate, second-hand, hand-me-downs.

I am tired of make-shift, making do or doing without.

I am tired of conforming to an outdated model which links disability to beggary, which demands that I live a life of indigent misery merely because the medical industry has created an economy in which my medical costs exceed my ability to pay them.

All citizens are granted the following Rights, regardless of disability:

My Unalienable Rights:

The Right To Life.

I deserve to live the best life medical science can provide.

The Right To Liberty.

I deserve to be free to leave the boundaries of my State and Country and travel anywhere I can.

The Right of The Pursuit of Happiness.

I deserve to pursue my own happiness, however and wherever I may find it.

"I deserve to have good things and a good life."--from Diary of a Mad Black Woman.

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

Sincerely,
Linda Anfuso

Wilton, New Hampshire

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Charlotte Pirch
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] e
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Kicking people off healthcare is practically a guarantee of more people declaring bankruptcy, primarily minorities, and more civil unrest! Let us stand for fairness!!

Landra White

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 07

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lucy Santos Green
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To Members of the Committee,

My family, all educators who have dedicated their lives to public service in the states of Texas, Arkansas, and Georgia, rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter has asthma. My husband has Multiple Sclerosis. I have pregnancy-induced congestive heart failure - a condition I developed because I chose to continue my pregnancy instead of terminating. Any one of these conditions could ruin us physically and financially.

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

Sincerely,
Dr. Lucy Santos Green
Augusta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: vote NO on graham cassidy

To:
The United States Senate
Committee on Finance

Dear Committee Members,

I strongly urge you to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy health care bill.

I am a gainfully employed wife, mother, daughter, sister, colleague, friend, woman, person. I have good insurance through my husbands employer, but I believe that **every single person in this country deserves good health care**. Anything less is discrimination based on social/economic status. Anything less implies that we believe some human beings are worthy of life and others are not. I don't believe that and I urge you to examine your conscience as you consider the moral implications of your vote.

Surely, if you can see fit to increase the already incredibly bloated defense budget by 700 BILLION, you can find a way to make affordable health care happen in this country. The American people have spoken multiple times on this issue. **We want decent, affordable health care**. This is how we want our tax dollars to be used. Why are you trying to undermine that over and over again? Why do we have to take time, again and again, from our jobs, our families, our lives to keep you from hurting people?

I would suggest you build on the great strides made by the Affordable Care Act and President Obama. Shore up the health exchanges, don't sabotage them. Make sure Trump can't sabotage them either. Enforce the individual mandate which is critical to making this all work. Do some good. Practice compassion. See people and not their net worth.

You have the power to do so much good. Use it.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gatzke
Urbana, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas Corron [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:57 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.

Thomas Corron

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 5
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Alpha-1 Foundation Comments on Graham-Cassidy
Attachments: A1F letter on Graham Cassidy Sept 2017.pdf

Please find attached the Alpha-1 Foundation's letter outlining its opposition to the Graham-Cassidy health reform proposal. Thank you for your consideration.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Associates
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] W
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 480-1130
[REDACTED]

Thank you for reading and considering, and doing the right thing not to fulfill a campaign promise but to develop a decent plan for our healthcare.

~~Lowell Hallen~~
~~Chairman~~
~~Healthcare~~
~~Commission~~
~~150~~

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Greetings:

I'm writing to submit my testimony to the committee and request that congress does NOT repeal the ACA and replace it with the Graham-Cassidy bill, which eliminates much of the coverage and access necessary to so many Americans. Let's take the time to develop a really decent healthcare bills that solves the many problems our country has in this category. Graham-Cassidy is NOT that bill.

I suspect that most components of this healthcare bill are in place to accommodate insurance companies and keep their bottom line in the black. I think the issue should not be access to health insurance--it should be simply the access to healthcare, available to all citizens when they need it.

Here's an incident, one of many, from my family as an example of the importance of current healthcare coverage, and why I support retaining and improving the ACA policies we already have in place. Let's work on it, not repeal it.

My daughter is 24 years old, with pre-existing medical conditions, but still on my employer-provided health insurance because of ACA. After 3 years of debilitating shoulder pain, she received a diagnosis in Fall 2016 that orthopedic surgery was required. She had an out-patient, arthroscopic procedure and the medical bills, not counting ten weeks of physical therapy which will be thousands more, totaled \$64,000. Our insurance company's approved amount was about half of that, bringing her bill down to \$32,000. My daughter's deductible is \$1250 and she pays 30% after that. So with good insurance, her bills will total around \$10,500, not counting physical therapy. That is a huge amount for a college student who works part time in a retail store, but she will pay it off.


What would have happened if she had no insurance and was faced with a \$64,000 bill for that surgery? She would have declined the surgery. She would not have taken on that debt, even though she was in intense pain which affected her ability to work and study. And without surgical repair, this pain and immobility would have consistently worsened. She is a brilliant student, pursuing a career in Chemical Engineering, but losing the use of her right arm would certainly impede that career. Eventually she would need to apply for Social Security Disability, and, if approved, after two years she would qualify for Medicare (if still available!). Then maybe she could get that surgery (paid for by Medicare benefits!). But after years untreated, her condition might be beyond repair. She would still be in her twenties but without the ability to do even small tasks we take for granted.

When my daughter turns 26, she can no longer remain on my insurance. She will just be graduating from college and will likely not yet have employer-provided coverage. Without the provisions of ACA in place, her pre-existing conditions will disqualify her from purchasing her own insurance. She has two additional surgeries needed in the near future. Without insurance these surgeries will be impossible and she faces a lifetime of pain.

It is not acceptable that citizens of this privileged country would be hindered from working and contributing by lack of healthcare, that these healthcare decisions are made on the basis of cost rather than need.

I urge you and my congressmen to vote to keep these important aspects of ACA in place, then work to improve what should be better. From my research, Graham-Cassidy will be a far worse healthcare plan than ACA.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: 
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition, and I am a senior citizen living below the poverty line. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Patricia Heckart


Troy, NY 12180

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Comments

Hello — I oppose Graham - Cassidy as it will end expanded Medicaid and jeopardizes those with pre-existing conditions. I am not wedded to the ACA, but any replacement needs to maintain coverage levels, portability, and eliminate medical caps. I know several people who have literally had their lives saved because of the onset of ACA coverage.

Sincerely,
John Kavalunas
Lakewood IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

To the Senate Finance Committee:

Hello. I am writing as a concerned citizen about the Graham/Cassidy bill. As someone who has had their taxes increased due to the ACA, I want you to know that I STILL STRONGLY SUPPORT HEALTHCARE ACCESS FOR ALL AMERICANS. I am willing to pay my part to make sure that people don't die because of lack of access or overwhelming financial burdens. For me, it is part of the social contract to help those less fortunate than myself.

Furthermore, I find it reckless and irresponsible to force a vote on this bill before a complete CBO analysis has been completed and shared with the American people. Decisions that affect millions and one sixth of our economy should not be politically motivated. We are talking about people's lives and livelihoods. When every major medical group comes out in opposition to a bill, shouldn't we listen? We need public hearings, town halls and information campaigns, not back channel deal making.

I know people personally that are living in fear. Fear that they won't be able to afford the care that literally keeps them alive.

Now is the time for people of conscious to do the right thing. Not the politically convenient thing.

Thank you,
Susan Kosyka

New York, NY 10023

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@mnsf/34001marco>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:04 PM
To: gchcomments; Val Collins
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill - my story

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing as a patient, a parent and a voter. My husband and I make a very good income and we are not dependent on the ACA for financial reasons.

But we do depend on the ACA for a more important reason: Without coverage for pre-existing conditions, I would be bankrupt. We wouldn't own an home or the careers we do.

In 2004, my husband's small employer told us that they would pay us a set amount for us to purchase our own insurance. We were very happy to do that, since they were going to cover all of our family.

When I tried to apply for a family policy, a red flag was raised over my history of bad headaches. All five health insurers sent back my application with a "DECLINED" letter.

Finally, Blue Cross suggested that I try to get a "high risk pool" run by the state of Indiana. When I submitted my application, I was offered a policy that was \$900 per month and would not cover anything until my medical fees exceeded \$9,000. And guess who it was offered by? Blue Cross! The SAME company that had declined to sell me a regular standard policy! What a racket.

The "High Risk Pool" was 'better than nothing', but it was 99.9% nothing. And Blue Cross was never going to make the policy more attractive, because they didn't want high risk patients like me anyway!

So then my Blue Cross agent said that if I could go without any medications or treatment for my headaches for 2 years, then they might look at selling me a standard policy.

And I accepted. For the next 2 years, while uninsured, I avoided the doctors completely. My goal was to avoid any and all possible diagnosis just to be able to obtain health insurance and pay a decent premium.

What a ridiculous way to protect the health the citizens in your state and country. The rate of uninsured population soared over the next 4 years. People were losing their homes and their cars.

Then Obama came with an offer to make sure insurance companies COULD NEVER ABUSE THE PRE-EXISTING CONDITION PATIENTS EVER AGAIN! Halleluia!

My children were growing older and the ACA gave me PEACE that my children would NEVER experience what had happened to me.

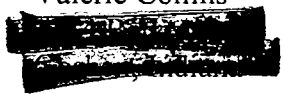
And what do we hear now? That the ACA will be repealed and the REPLACEMENT plan is.....
High Risk Pools!?! This can't be happening. I'm in shock.

PLEASE make sure you vote NO on the Graham Cassidy bill and ANY bill that discriminates against the sick!

Medicare doesn't discriminate.
Medicaid doesn't discriminate.
Tricare doesn't discriminate.
CONGRESSIONAL health insurance doesn't discriminate.
But the Graham Cassidy Bill, with high risk pools, discriminates!

Signed,

Valerie Collins



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

I do not subscribe to the position of the Massachusetts Medical Society regarding the ACA. Obamacare must be repealed fully, replaced with a market driven plan allowing across state borders access to insurance plans. economics will drive costs down. Obamacare is an unmitigated financial disaster and it is unconstitutional.

I do not subscribe to single payer plan. We already have Medicare and Medicaid. I want the government out of healthcare.

Phyllis Troia, MD
Plymouth MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill

To Whom It May Concern,

Healthcare is in quotations since this bill in no way provides healthcare to Americans. This is a way to give tax breaks to the rich, and by doing so, creating death panels on the state level. Children born with birth defects, children with cancer, women with cancer, any human suffering from a disease or illness should not be in financial peril while fighting for their lives; deciding whether to have a roof over their head or food on the table - or to buy medication or have treatment. It's unconscionable the lies you disseminate for the sake of passing legislation. Seriously, you all say you are christians...would Jesus turn his back on the sick or less fortunate? No. So I wonder how your spiteful actions would be seen by your almighty? Why don't you ask yourself these questions? Have a little introspection, empathy and altruism? How about do the job we pay you for, work in a bipartisan manner to fix the ACA in the interim and then actually work on a path to universal care? You work for us, Senators. We the people do not want this travesty of a bill.

Stand on the right side of history. Don't strip millions of insurance, which would be nothing more than a death sentence to so many.

Thank you,
Erica Binelli

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Samantha Jarrell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is this. My boyfriend of 4 years (age 24) was recently diagnosed with a life long condition. He must have a blood transfusion once every month and a half. Without insurance, the cost to us would be \$4000. Because of this condition, he had to quit his job. Without the protections of the ACA, we would be taking on the entirety of that bill. He probably wouldn't have insurance because he had to quit his job, and it would be very difficult to get him new insurance because of the intensity of his "pre-existing condition". I work full time at a library, pay my taxes, and vote every election season. As a hard working American, it's terrifying to think that something out of our control could have sunk our hard working little family, and I have the ACA and its protections to thank for that not happening.

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

Sincerely, Samantha Jarrell

Denver, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marion Z Murphy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. If you all mandate that YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES are also subject to this ACA then I might change my mind - but I doubt it. You all are not above the law ! That is not how the "fathers" of this country conceived of this country. How ashamed would they be of you all? You want to take healthcare away from the people to benefit corporations??? Shame on you. What would your mothers say?

My grandparents were immigrants - they loved this country. My father was career navy - he enlisted, with parental permission, at 15 - and served during WWII, Korea and Vietnam. He loved this country. I can tell you, for a fact, he would be ashamed of you all.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. If you people would stop referring to it as Obama Care - you would have no issue with it - and you know that ! Shame on you !!

Marion Z Murphy
NY, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Fuller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am a U.S. citizen and I reside in Wisconsin.
I, along with my family, relies on quality, affordable healthcare.

I adopted my special needs daughter, who is now 28.
She depends on affordable healthcare that will meet her needs as a disabled adult. She loves living and certainly did not ask for her disability when she was born.

I depend on affordable healthcare, and have worked to help others throughout my entire life, providing them with behavioral healthcare that was affordable and accessible to them.

My other family members have pre-existing conditions and simply cannot go on living, literally, without affordable, humane, healthcare.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not to repeal it. Please work together to do this.

Thank you for your service for our people of the U.S> Please represent our very real health needs by improving the ACA, not, repealing it.

Linda Fuller
Port Wing, Wisconsin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Ellis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote NO!

Dear All,

As a self-employed business owner and someone who has paid for my own medical insurance for years, I urge you to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Before any changes are made to our current healthcare structure, the bill you are considering needs to go through much better vetting than any that have been put forward so far.

To pass any new healthcare bill without knowing specifically how it will affect the American people, without hearings and without even time to fully read and understand the ramifications of the bill would be criminal.

I have personally benefitted from the ACA. Could it be better? Yes. It would be better if my premiums weren't so high and my deductible was lower and my coverages were more expansive. It does not appear to me that the bill in front of you today would do that - I am not at all hopeful that if this bill passed I would be helped in any way.

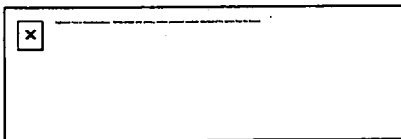
And even more than my concern for myself - a relatively healthy person who minimally uses healthcare except for emergencies, I am terrified for many of my fellow Americans. Anyone with a pre-existing condition or who has fewer resources that I have would be severely hurt by this bill.

This is not the time or the bill to replace the ACA. Please, do it right.

Leslie Ellis
Bend, Oregon



Leslie Ellis, OTR, ERYT500, YACEP
Yoga Teacher, Therapist and Mentor



Offering private and therapeutic yoga in Portland and Bend
[REDACTED]

"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive." Howard Thurman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please save our healthcare... Do not pass this bill

Dear senators,

Please save our healthcare. This latest bill (Graham/Cassidy) looks like it is the worst of the three you have presented over these many months. And just overnight you have made it worse as far as pre-existing conditions. I am also worried about "the essential benefits". It is up for grabs from state to state. That is a horrible situation. Please listen to the American People and vote down this bill. Both Republicans and Democrats need to work together for a good bill for all. I agree with John McCain. Get back to "regular order".

Thank you.
K Smyth

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Potter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Richard_burr@burr.senate.gov; Thom_tillis@tillis.senate.gov
Subject: VOTE NO to Graham-Cassidy

I am the mother of a 30 year old son with cerebral palsy who still lives at home. He is a 2009 graduate of Wake Forest University. Since graduation, he has dedicated his time volunteering throughout his community and the state of NC to improve the lives of people with disabilities, mental health issues, and substance use disorder. He is the 2017 Disability Rights NC Champion of Justice and Equality. He has been on the Innovations Waiver waiting list for 8 years because he wants to live a life independent of his aging parents. The Graham-Cassidy bill is a danger to his future and to many others in our country. To offer block grants and caps for Medicaid is to ignore the value of fellow human beings in our country. It will push us towards a return to a dangerous past of institutional care, which is actually a lot more expensive. It will injure people with pre-existing conditions, increase the numbers of the uninsured and use of emergency room care, which is also more expensive and destabilizing for the hospital system, and will allow for lifetime caps, which for my son who was born prematurely could have happened before kindergarten. PLEASE drop this partisan effort to repeal the ACA and do right by your constituents by improving the existing system. Don't ignore the health and value of millions of fellow Americans. You were elected to serve everyone. I implore you to stop the insanity and work with all your congressional partners to improve access to healthcare through the ACA. Thank you for listening. Respectfully, Sarah Potter

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gmail <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

Respectfully, this bill is awful and will put MILLIONS of lives at risk. Millions. I understand the need to prove to your constituents that you are trying to accomplish something, but this is not the way. I don't want to sound hyperbolic, but the US citizens that die as a result of this bills passage can't ever vote for you.

I am saddened that anyone is trying to buy the votes of any Senators by offering their states a bunch of resources. If this bill was in the public good, then no one would need to be bought off.

Reforming the concerns with the ACA should be a public collaborative effort between many parties and states. It should follow the regular order of the Senate, not shoved through at the last minute.

I stay awake each night thinking about how I can make my friends, family, and neighbors safer and healthier. Is this bill doing the same?

Respectfully,
Shelly Clark

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill!!

Dear Legislators:

With deep concern, I urge you to REJECT Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan legislation the Senate HELP Committee has been 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 all counting on you. Please don't fail us now.

Sincerely,
Melissa Honig

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Shih <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My husband and I have been working in healthcare for the last 20 years. We oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill being proposed by the Republican Party.

Though America has the most advanced medical technologies and hospital systems in the world, it has one of the worst medical coverage, among the industrial nations. Working in the hospitals, we have personally witnessed how Affordable Care Act helped more patients who have no access to healthcare before. At the same time, the private interest of the insurance industry has dictated doctors and nurses the way they provide healthcare. This is how the American healthcare system has been eroded and how public policy failed to protect the basic needs of the American public.

Healthcare reform is definitely needed in this country, but it does not mean millions of Americans who finally can get healthcare coverage should be stripped out of their basic needs. The worst thing is their basic needs are being used as political bargain chip caught in the game of Washington DC. We hope members of the Republican Party regain their conscience of why they are talking and walking in the capital, and whose interest they need to serve. To cut the tax for the rich and deprive the healthcare coverage of millions of people are immoral and should not be tolerated in this country.

Sincerely,
Helen Shih, PhD
Pearland, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Steinhoff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA, don't repeal it, and pass Medicare for All

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid and affordability is that I am a senior citizen, and am about to retire after paying into Social Security since I was fourteen years old. I am frightened at the prospect that I may not be able to have health care if legislators take it away. Also, my daughter and her husband are covered by ACA, and she is expecting a baby, my first grandchild. Without the ACA, she would not be able to afford prenatal care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, and then to pass Medicare for All.
Sincerely,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy hearing, Monday 9/25/17

To whom it may concern:

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare: he has type 2 diabetes, and I have chronic back issues that often keep me from my work. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As we get close to retirement and our senior years, we worry that these and other "pre-existing" conditions will preclude us from affordable health care at a time when we most need it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Jennie Shortridge
[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lewis, Megan J <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A healthcare provider's thoughts on G-C

I am a Registered Nurse and Student Nurse-Midwife at Vanderbilt University, and as a healthcare provider I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. There are numerous reasons why this bill is bad for Americans, but especially concerning to me as a future midwife are the detrimental effects the bill would have on women's health:

- Many women would lose their coverage for contraception that they currently have under the ACA. This will lead to more unplanned pregnancies, increasing the abortion rate and increasing healthcare costs for maternity care and healthcare for the children born as a result of these unplanned pregnancies.
- Women on Medicaid would no longer be able to receive preventive care at Planned Parenthood, greatly reducing their access to necessary cancer screenings, STI/STD testing and treatment, and contraception. Federally funded health centers do NOT have the resources to take over these services for the 50% of women on Medicaid who rely on PP for these services. In the long run, this would increase healthcare costs as more women develop cancer, become infected with STIs, or become pregnant as a result of losing access to preventive care.
- Under this bill, states can waive the current requirement to cover maternity care, making it unaffordable for countless low-income women. How can you claim to be "pro-life," yet not ensure that women receive basic prenatal care that has the potential to be life-saving for herself and her fetus?

These are only a small sample of the problems with the G-C bill. I urge every Senator to vote NO on this bill for the health of Americans.

Sincerely,

Megan Lewis, RN
MSN Student
Student Nurse-Midwife
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ilana Morris <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE do not pass Trumpcare

To whom it may concern,

Trumpcare is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote "yes" on this bill will be remembered in the next election as officials with a contorted, self-destructive concept of what makes America exceptional.

The medical community is united against this bill, as evidenced by opposition endorsed by all 50 state Medicaid directors. If the unanimous protest by health experts is not enough to sway you, also consider the strong and consistent opposition organized by the citizens of this nation, many of whom literally rely on the Affordable Care Act for survival. As someone with a pre-existing condition (I was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer at 25), I am very concerned about what this would mean for not only the people with chronic conditions, those who depend on Medicare and Medicaid, and people like myself with pre-existing conditions.

I trust that you will make the correct decision and vote "no" on the Graham-Cassidy Bill, otherwise many Americans will be destined for hardship.

Thank you,

Ilana M. Morris

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julia Lucia <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL OBAMACARE! CONSULT YOUR SOUL AND YOUR CONSCIENCE!!

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Please, for the love of all that is decent, DO NOT REPEAL OBAMACARE. It is unconscionable that our leaders would actively work to take healthcare away from the most vulnerable among us. You were put in office to HELP PEOPLE, not hurt them. This bill will literally KILL PEOPLE!!!

Please put politics aside and work with your colleagues--COME TOGETHER to make the Affordable Care Act THE BEST IT CAN BE. Bring our nation together so that we can be the strong, sustainable and JUST country we all aspire to be.

Sincerely,
Julia Lucia, single mom who depends on the ACA.
Along with my daughters, who are 8 and 10.
Berkeley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeannie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Therefore, I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Three years ago, I was diagnosed with stage 3 renal cell carcinoma. I had to have my right kidney removed. I have no family history of this kind of cancer, it just happened. I stumped the doctors. I shouldn't have had this cancer at age 45. It is one that typically attacks people 20 years older than I. Even genetic testing didn't solve the mystery. Thankfully, I was covered by employer insurance. Now, however, I am self-employed and need to continue health care coverage so I can have my annual oncology check-ups to ensure that the cancer isn't coming back. So far it hasn't.

If it wasn't for the ACA rules concerning pre-existing conditions, I wouldn't have insurance today and wouldn't be able to have my own business. I would have to go back to work with a company that has insurance as a benefit package. I don't want to do that. I want to live my life how I want, have my own business (the American dream), and be able to feel secure that I can afford health insurance while doing so.

I implore all Senators to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many people's lives depend on a no vote.

Sincerely,
Jeannie Dees

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nathan Laurell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE GRAHAM-CASSIDY-HELLER

Senate Finance Committee,

Under our current administration, I live in constant fear of my wife losing her health insurance as a young survivor of breast cancer. We also provide for my gravely ill mother-in-law, who depends on Medicaid for her health care, and my father who has metastatic prostate cancer. Should the ACA be repealed, they might die—literally—just like so many thousands more.

So PLEASE, I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Please prevent 32 million people from losing their health coverage. Please refuse to destroy Medicaid, which would only serve to harm the most vulnerable members of our society.

Have the courage to do what is right.

Nate Laurell,

Chicago, Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Corinne Bowles <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

Hello,

I am writing to state that I am against the Graham/Cassidy health care bill and would like congress to work together to fix what is not working with Obamacare.

Thank you,

[REDACTED] Lincoln NE [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Victoria Barry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Gillibrand, Kirsten (Gillibrand); schumer, scheduling (Schumer)
Subject: Testimony: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017
Attachments: V.Barry Testimony- Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017.docx

To whom it may concern,

I am submitting personal testimony for the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017. In 1998, when she was 42 and I was 15 years old, my mother died as a direct result of being uninsured. Today, she would have been covered by the expanded Medicaid Program of the Affordable Care Act. Please see the attached document with my full story and feel free to contact me for any additional information.

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Victoria B. Barry
New York State Licensed Psychologist

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Kam-Gordon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: schumer, scheduling (Schumer); Gillibrand, Kirsten (Gillibrand)
Subject: Comment for the hearing of the Senate Finance Committee regarding healthcare

To the Senate Finance Committee on the hearing for the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal effort:

I am writing to you to implore you to vote against this horrible bill. This bill would devastate my sister's progress toward mental health, likely bankrupt my aging and not very healthy parents, and jeopardize my child's future by threatening the health of her father and myself, her mother, as well as causing her own healthcare expenses to increase. In addition, this bill would devastate my community. I live in the Bronx among thousands of hardworking, blue collar families. There are so many women and children in my community that benefit from the ACA, which helps to keep us all healthy. The hospitals and clinics in my community are full of people receiving quality, preventative care from excellent doctors, midwives, and nurses. Preventative care saves us money in the long run. The point of healthcare legislation is improvement, measured by increased coverage and lower costs. You need to reject this current bill and work toward actual improvement. This is what the American people want.

Sincerely,
Sarah Kam-Gordon

[REDACTED] Bronx, NY [REDACTED]
25 September 2017

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Dixon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote No

Today you are considering the Healthcare bill. Let me add my voice to the millions of Americans that will be forever harmed by passage of this awful bill. We elected you to represent us! The majority in this country do not want this ! We want affordable, good coverage that does not allow for the exception of pre-existing conditions. If you want to lower the abortion rate, then provide full coverage for birth control and education. If you want to lower costs, rein in the drug companies. But don't force the American People to bear the burden because you can't find a solution to these problems.

I certainly hope you are not driven by money. Many think the Koch Brothers are holding you for ransom. That's not why you were elected. Please help the people you REPRESENT!

Thank you
Susan Dixon

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ali Davis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't adopt this terrible bill.

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I'm sure you are well aware that every individual bankruptcy sends out a wave of financial difficulty with it, putting a strain on family members and every business that won't ever get paid. That's the financial reason to kill Graham-Cassidy: It will cause a wave of bankruptcies that will harm every aspect of the economy.

I'm lucky because I work full-time for a large institution. My health insurance is safe... for now. But I have dozens -- literally dozens -- of friends who won't be able to afford basic health insurance if this bill is passed. That means that their first major illness or ongoing prescription costs will simply bankrupt them.

And then it will kill them.

That is the humanitarian reason to stop Graham-Cassidy: It will cause thousands of Americans to die pointless deaths from preventable diseases.

Are we a first-world nation or not? Are we a compassionate nation or not?

Please do the right thing.

Alexandra Davis,
California, USA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane V Leocha [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom this does concern,

This bill is awful. I absolutely do not support it and neither should you. This will hurt so many people. Please vote against it.

Diane V. Leocha

[REDACTED]
Farmington, NH. [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Wood <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please kill this cruel bill.

Americans deserve better than this.

Elizabeth Wood

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gayle Meskimen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill
Attachments: image1.jpeg; ATT00001.txt

I oppose this bill. Not only is it a cruel and bad bill, I think the block grant formulas make it unconstitutional.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Haskins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Affordable health care for all our citizens is one of the most critical issues we face. This Graham Cassidy bill is yet another attempt to ram something through that is based, not on content and effect, but on preservation of political power. We must have a complete, detailed and bipartisan process in order to get to a system that really works. This SHOULD NOT BE ABOUT POLITICAL PROMISES BUT ABOUT PEOPLE'S LIVES!!!

Carol Haskins

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill
Attachments: EBrownSenate-Finance-Committee-Comment.pdf

I am submitting a comment for the Finance Committee Hearing today on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill to Repeal and Replace the ACA.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Brown
Towson, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom Kabat [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham Cassidy

Please conserve health care for millions of Americans and Reject Graham Cassidy.

There is no need to take from the sick to give to the rich.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

-Tom Kabat

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leigh Maas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

Please consider a no vote for this bill. I have worked with the senior community in health care as a dietitian for the last 20 years. My career has spanned working with seniors through community assistance programs, long-term care and dialysis. The services provided to our seniors that are provided in help by Medicaid have been life saving and extended quality of life. Cutting our state's funding by over \$800,000 has the effect of closing nursing homes in rural communities, preventing dialysis services and assisting obtaining medications. In addition, services provided by Medicaid have increased the work force for health care workers that provide services to our seniors. My mother-in-law is a senior on a limited income receiving Medicaid services to provide assistance in her home, and medication management. Reducing her benefit will prevent her from receiving medical services, including hospitalization, therapy and rehabilitation. Please consider "NO" on this vote.

Sincerely,

Leigh C Maas, RDN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim Coronado [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Coronado family DEPENDS on MEDICAID!
Attachments: IMG_20161202_023516329.jpg; VZM.IMG_20161019_122647.jpg; IMG_20161019_152939406.jpg; IMG_20170220_205107315.jpg; 20140918_201140.jpg

Please submit my testimony as I am unable to be at hearing today.

My name is Kimberlee Coronado and I live in Waukesha, Wisconsin. I have been married for 20 years and I had to end my career to care for our 4 beautiful yet complex children with physical, developmental, and mental health disabilities. All 4 of our children are insured by Medicaid as a secondary insurance and Medicaid has helped pay for at least, 15 hospital admissions for breathing issues, multiple extensive MRSA-STAPH infections, and in-patient Psychiatric hospital admissions, and multiple surgeries. Our children also receive various benefits like ABA, school services through IEP's, case management, perscription medications, mentorship through the children's long term waiver, specialized respite, outpatient therapy sessions. **If you vote Yes to Graham Cassidy bill and cut Medicaid benefits...OUR FAMILY WOULD BE DEVISTATED!** The long-term effect would be that would be forced to break up our family because we could not provide for all their needs thus, our children would be placed in institution.

It is only been a year since ABA therapy was made available through Medicaid as a benefit. We have already paid too big of a price by being on a very long wait list for help. *I urge to vote to end the waiting list and I wholeheartedly ask that you say NO to Medicaid cuts!*

Our three oldest children have been diagnosed with Autism. They use Children's Long Term waiver (CLTS) which supports them in the community with a mentor, case management, and specialized Respite. All three depend on FEE-FOR-Service/ Forward Card and meet MEDICAID's required threshold for "Medical Necessity" for in-home ABA autism benefit. All four of my children have many very costly perscription medications which we are very fortunate to have this benefit, within school supports are provided by their IEP's, and outpatient mental health services. Our oldest child will be 18 in November and will be depending on adult services through IRIS as a vital service to meet his needs as an adult. This is normally a scary time for parents and our experience is even more dire because of uncertainty of the proposed long-term cuts and caps bring discussed with Graham Cassidy bill.

Also, our family has 3 members with severe asthma and allergies. If MEDICAID is cut, my family would not be able to afford the secondary copays for specialized care and the medications they need in an emergency.

In closing, please understand your decision has the ability to help provide care or DEVISTATE our family. Please see the photos that are attached as they are worth so many more words.

Thank you,
Kimberlee Coronado

[REDACTED]
Waukesha, WI [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Memarie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the Record Graham-Cassidy Hearing Sept. 25, 2017

This bill will cause untold damage to Americans, especially the most vulnerable. We can not allow this bill to pass the Senate. This is not what America is about.

Memarie Christoforo

[REDACTED]
Greene, ME [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacqueline Shea Murphy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill that will be before the Senate Finance committee today.

The bill is a fiasco, will end health coverage for millions of Americans, curtail Medicaid plans, and prevent women from getting healthcare through Planned Parenthood.

THank you,

Jacqueline Shea Murphy

[REDACTED]
Oakland, CA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Noreen Whysel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Graham-Cassidy: Bad for Health, Bad for Entrepreneurs

Noreen Whysel
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
New York, NY [REDACTED]

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge you to reconsider a vote on Graham-Cassidy and the repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

Graham-Cassidy is a broken promise codified in law. Many things are wrong with it, not the least being the lack of public debate and formal study of its potential effects on our economy and the health of American citizens. It is unfathomably reckless and irresponsible for Congress to vote on a bill that will affect such a large portion of our nation's economy without measurement from the CBO or debate.

This plan will destroy more than just my family's health. We left jobs that provided employer subsidized health plans to start up a new business on the promise that preexisting conditions would be covered. We are working on developing an employee benefit that will improve many people's financial lives. Our startup just won a workforce development award from our Mayors office so we have come confirmation that our idea will have major impact. There are many entrepreneurs like me who count on the promise of continued coverage who are working to improve much more in society than our own circumstances. Without coverage for preexisting conditions our combined expenses for medicine alone would easily exceed \$6000 per month. That isn't sustainable. Our company and the benefit it would have provided to American workers would disappear.

Just because the GOP calls it "Obamacare" doesn't mean they weren't a party to passing the ACA. They are breaking a promise just as much as if it was their own plan (which, historically speaking it is). Do you really expect to turn your backs on the American people and not see a response in November 2018?

Sincerely,

Noreen Whysel

--
Noreen Whysel
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bindu Mistry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GRAHAM CASSIDY BILL

Importance: High

My name is Bindu Mistry. My daughter Nirali Mistry attends a progressive program at OCA in Winter Park. OCA stands for Opportunity, Community and Ability and it offers Behavior therapy, recreation programs, adult vocational training, summer and holiday camps as well as after-school programs for individuals with special needs.

Its programs are funded predominantly through Florida's CDC+ monies which are Medicaid Waiver monies from the Medicaid program that will be greatly impacted by any block grants, cuts or caps as proposed in the Graham-Cassidy bill.

We have worked so hard to support our child so that she can be part of our community and do not want to see that go away or be forced to make a decision about an institutional setting. We respectfully request that you oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and oppose any cuts or caps to Medicaid, on behalf of our daughter.

Sincerely,

Bindu Mistry

[REDACTED] Longwood FL [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Bradley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Bradley M.D.

[REDACTED]
Manchester, MA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

I'm extremely concerned that this bill that will come up for vote this week, will cause me to lose the health care coverage I now have. I am one of the millions who was able to obtain coverage through the medicaid expansion, and this bill would certainly take that from me.

I have multiple pre-existing conditions:

I'm 62 years old, not old enough to apply for medicare.

I'm a cancer survivor and require follow up procedures to ensure I remain cancer free.

I'm a diabetic and require daily medications and testing, that I could not afford if I lose health care coverage.

I have arthritis, one of which is degenerative, the other is psoriatic and treated through daily medications.

I have high blood pressure and require daily medications.

I have high cholesterol, a side effect of having diabetes, and require daily medication

I require yearly eye exams, as a result of having diabetes.

I'm currently in treatment (steroid shots) in my spine, due to scoliosis causing a pinched nerve

With all of those pre-existing conditions, along with my age, I would most certainly be priced out of coverage, and depend upon the medicaid expansion program in place through ACA

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: LauraJean Torgerson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is that it allows my sister to access healthcare so she will be able to work again. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Laura Jean Torgerson
Fresno, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslie Black <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 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.

I am a registered nurse. I have seen the effects of disease on people who have no healthcare. Your constituents, the rest of the country, the world and most importantly Jesus are all watching your personally choreographed chaos of inhumanity.

Leslie H Black
Birmingham Alabama

Leslie Black

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Turner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 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.

Wendy Turner
Altoona, IA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kweidmann58 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy Health Care

Senators,

Please vote no on this bill. It is not for the good of We The People.

I only see two resolutions. First, bipartisan support for a bill that works it's way through the normal process and obtains 60 votes or Medicare for all.

Again, please vote no. Lives are depending upon it.

Kathleen Weidmann

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S® 6, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teresa <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I say no to Graham Cassidy

Please look hard at the bill. I say no.
Teresa Francoeur

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve Blank <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Hi there,

Myself, my family, my friends, and loved ones all rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which will greatly restrict millions of American citizen's access to affordable healthcare. I personally was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease a couple of years ago and I fear having to change insurance if I won't be covered because of this pre-existing condition. No citizen of this great country should have to fear for their life and health because Congress strips away access to healthcare.

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

Sincerely, Steve Blank
[REDACTED] San Francisco, CA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jackie MacMillan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Policy - Cassidy-Graham And Alternative

Dear Senator Cardin and Members of the Senate Finance Committee: The Cassidy-Graham Bill would cause great harm to millions of people, and to states that expanded Medicaid under the ACA. If it comes to a vote, it should be voted down.

While Cassidy-Graham would cruelly take healthcare away from millions of people who depend on it, there is growing recognition of the shortcomings of the Affordable Care Act. The ACA itself leaves roughly 10% of the US population uninsured, and many *underinsured*. Proposed fixes such as increased subsidies and 're-insurance' constitute costly, taxpayer subsidies to the for-profit insurance industry.

An alternative that would address the shortcomings of the ACA, cover every US resident, and do so in a much more efficient manner, is public, single payer insurance.

If done properly, single-payer health insurance would place everyone in a single risk pool, thereby significantly reducing cost by spreading risk. It would significantly reduce administrative costs, which are estimated to range between 20-30% of overall healthcare costs in the private insurance market, compared to 2-3% for Medicare. It would reduce the most costly illnesses through prevention and early treatment by ensuring regular and timely medical visits for all residents. It would eliminate medical bankruptcies which remain a serious threat to families facing catastrophic illness. And most important, it would reduce the unnecessary death and suffering that occur when people are not able to obtain timely medical treatment.

I urge you to consider the merits of S.1804, the Medicare for All Act of 2017. The wealthiest nation in the world can afford to provide healthcare for all of its people.

Thank you for considering these requests. Best Regards, Jackie MacMillan, [REDACTED] Baltimore, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kari Winter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham/Cassidy

Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you,

Kari Winter
[REDACTED]
Chapel Hill, NC [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kurt Boesen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Kurt Boesen
[REDACTED]

Phoenix, AZ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachael Mason <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No repeal!

I am writing to beg you not to repeal the ACA. Medicaid is a fundamental component of healthcare in the US. The Graham-Cassidy bill will strip so many, including myself and most of my family, of access to healthcare. Fix the ACA, don't replace it with a bill that is a literal death sentence to millions of Americans!

Signed,
Rachael Mason

--
Rachael Mason
UCB Coordinator of Things
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cole M Jackson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My father has what would be considered a pre-existing condition and I currently benefit from the ability to stay on my parents healthcare plan until the age of 26. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cole Jackson
University of Puget Sound Class of 2017 | Biology |
Campus Visit Program | Coordinator |
Phi Sigma | Social and Education Chair |
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Tacoma, WA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heidi Macy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Please oppose Graham-Cassidy bill. Every single disability advocacy agency that I know of is against this bill because it weakens medicaid for children with disabilities and rare diseases and does not provide strong protections for the pre-existing conditions they were born with.

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mrs. Heidi Macy

[REDACTED]
Royersford, PA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kris Hall <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

We are both retired and on Medicare. We have the financial means to pay for a decent supplemental health policy. We oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill to stand up for the many Americans that will be hurt by this bill and its lack of support, compassion, and duty to many of our citizens that so not have great financial means, are disabled, are children, are single parents, work a job that does not provide health benefits or provides them at costs that are beyond their means. We believe that it is the right of all Americans to have access to good, affordable health care in healthy times and in times of illness, when they are young and when they are old. We believe it is your duty as representatives of the state and country your have be elected to serve, to do right by all the citizens not just the wealthy few. Our last comment is- would you personally give up your Senate health care and be a part of the bill you are pushing? I think you would not want to give up the nice health coverage you have. Please now think of others-It is your duty.

Kris Hall

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Jelinek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

Sincerely,

Gail Jelinek

Western Springs, Illinois

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Clarke <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 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.

Erin Marie Clarke
San Francisco, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Penny Visalli <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy!

NO NO NO. This bill is an abomination!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Barton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom this may concern,

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

Like millions of other Americans, we depend on affordable health care. I am lucky to receive high quality health insurance through my job, but require stable markets and protection of coverage for my pre-existing conditions. My sister works hard and responsibly but does not receive health care through her employment, and depends on Medicaid for her basic healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Sincerely,
Renee Barton
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Bradley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Bradley M.D.

[REDACTED]
Manchester, MA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I wish to state my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. Tinkering with yet another version of the original healthcare bill does not make it address the healthcare needs of the people. Millions of people will not be covered who are covered now. States will have the prerogative to determine who gets covered and how much money will be spent. This is chaos. We need one, uniform health care bill that applies across our entire country – nothing less.

Joan Silberman
Montara, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bren2915 . <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SAY NO to GrahamCassidy Health Care Bill

There are people in my family that are affected by this bad bill. They have preexisting conditions and two of them are infants.

My great niece is in Iowa. She is 6 months old and has cystic fibrosis. She comes from a healthy family and was born in April after a healthy pregnancy and normal birth.

My son in law is disabled after nearly dying from an antibiotic resistant infection that rapidly attacked his organs.

Another healthy mommy, healthy full term pregnancy suddenly went awry. The baby ingested amniotic fluid and had to stay in the hospital for a week. His blood work indicated he had an infection.

My oldest daughter has epilepsy since childhood. It is a preexisting condition managed by medication. Without medical and medication she would be unable to keep her job.

DO NOT support grahamcassidy. it is a bad bill that will hurt the most vulnerable . That is unAmerican.

Berma Matteson, Oregon Independent Voter

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Rissolo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

As a citizen of the United States, I request that you do not destroy our current healthcare system in this purely partisan, heartless manner. Although the ACA is far from perfect, it is a step in the right direction in providing decent healthcare protections for all of our citizens. I respectfully request that you go back to the bi-partisan initiative that was being worked on to improve our system to provide even better healthcare for all citizens with more affordable pricing and even greater protections. Taking away protections from people with pre-existing conditions and taking away mandates in basic coverage is the wrong direction to take. We need to take our country forward not backward.

Please protect the rights and health of all of our citizens regardless of their financial status or their physical/mental health.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sarah Rissolo
Darien, CT

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Hayer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill
Attachments: Save Medicaid - Hayer.pdf

Greetings,

My name is Carolyn Hayer and I am a resident of Hackensack, NJ and the parent of a young man with autism who relies on Medicaid for health care and community supports. I'm writing because of my grave concerns regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill that is currently under consideration by the Senate. This bill proposes devastating cuts to Medicaid and protections for people with disabilities like my son. I'm asking all Senators to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, or any other bill that cuts or caps Medicaid.

I've attached a document demonstrating how Medicaid supports my son.



Save Medicaid - Hayer.pdf

Thank you for your time and attention to this critically important matter.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Hayer

[REDACTED]
Hackensack, Nj [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kayla Kirsch <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Support Bipartisan Effort to Improve Healthcare in the USA

Hello Friends,

My family of four rely on ACA and have wonderful health care through Kaiser. We are both freelancers, pay our premiums, and cannot get health insurance through employers. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because it does not improve health care - it will take away coverage from millions.

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

Sincerely,

Kayla Kirsch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rhonda Oye <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

My husband was recently diagnosed with diabetes. We are concerned that pre-existing condition protection will be weakened under this legislation.

My sister-in-law and her two children are covered thanks to the ACA. They are eligible for subsidies to be able to maintain coverage. Those would disappear. She was recently diagnosed with skin cancer. Luckily this was found and treated thanks to the ACA. Again, this leads to much stress about the future of the protection for those with pre-existing conditions. It also raises concern about the reintroduction of lifetime caps on care. Her son is on the autism spectrum. Cuts to Medicaid will impact the programs that help him, and thousands of children just like him.

My sister would love nothing more than to retire and was planning to do that with the coverage available through the ACA. Unfortunately due to the uncertainty of healthcare legislation, she is now not able to do that since she is only 62 and not eligible for Medicare yet.

We have friends that have adopted four siblings that all have health, behavioral, and/or developmental problems due to fetal alcohol syndrome. You can't imagine their fear on what is going to happen for these kids! Will they hit lifetime caps? Will they be able to continue coverage for pre-existing conditions? Will Medicaid cuts decimate the programs that help them?

These are only a few of the stories of the MILLIONS of lives that will be impacted.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Also, it has to be done with the proper time and input that such a huge issue calls for. It cannot be irresponsibly pushed through solely because one party promised this with no forethought on what that would mean.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Oye
Elko, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maura Hurley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill

Americans rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability is that when I had a severe asthma attack I could not seek professional help as I was not covered. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Maura Hurley
New York, NY 10023

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Harris <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Dear Representatives,

I'm Mary Harris, writing you in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy health care bill.

Doctors oppose it. Health insurance companies oppose it.

It guarantees a large loss of care for millions of people.

And there is little protection for those of us who have pre-existing conditions. I have Diabetes II, a family trait, well controlled for over 50 years by diet and exercise. I am a bi-lateral Breast Cancer Warrior, 10 years and 6 months after my initial diagnosis.

I need my doctors, my medications, my check-ups, and my health care coverage.

As do millions of others. We do not have the wealth or the jobs to give us coverage if G-C passes.

And while states may have some initial funding to deal with health care, it's the federal government that will have to step in and care for those millions who get sicker and poorer.

Please vote down this bill.

Sincerely, Mary Harris

[REDACTED]
Raleigh, NC [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa Bailey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Health care

Please vote no on the Cassidy/Graham bill (both versions)
The American people should be heard above Corporate donors.
These are real lives and real people and should precedent over special interest \$

Also, it is not responsible governing for secret meetings or only 1 hearing.
It is NO way to run the Senate.
ALL Senators should know that or if not, should be replaced.
There is not even time for a CBO score.
You can't rush this through in 10 days!
We need cooler heads and common sense.
Doing the hard of work of hearings and committee meetings will be the only way to proceed responsibly.

Thank you for taking my comments.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Ford [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators:

I urge you to vote nay on the current healthcare bill. It will be devastating to low income Americans and those with preexisting conditions who were able to get affordable healthcare for the first time. It is a shame that with such a great country as ours we cannot find a way to provide healthcare insurance at a reasonable cost. Currently I am unemployed and were it not for my husband's job, I would be without healthcare. Right now I am scheduled for hip replacement surgery, a procedure that costs between 40,000 to 60,000 dollars. I am in so much pain that I am not sure what I would do if I could not have this surgery.

I understand our healthcare needs tweaked, but pushing the issue back to the states is not the answer.

Sincerely,

Lynn A. Ford
WA State Council on Aging

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Abderholden <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

NAMI Minnesota opposes the Graham-Cassidy Health Care proposal. This latest iteration of the ACA repeal bill to be heard in the Senate continues to contain deep flaws that threaten the foundation of our mental health system in Minnesota. We do not have a broken mental health system – the reality is that it was never built due to lack of funding and lack of coverage under public and private insurance.

NAMI is especially concerned about the provisions in the Graham-Cassidy bill that would transform Medicaid into a block grant to the states, providing per-capita funding for each population group. One of the reasons that the mental health system wasn't built after the closure of the institutions in the 1980s is that states relied on block grant funds which were cut over time and then the block grants had fewer "strings attached" which led to the funding being used for other purposes. You simply cannot fund health care with a block grant – with a set amount of money. None of us as individuals would agree to a set amount to cover our health care costs per year. Predicting what illnesses or accidents will happen in a year is impossible. Block granting Medicaid will lead to elimination of optional services – which includes almost all mental health treatment under current federal law.

Medicaid expansion has been critical to early intervention and accessing mental health treatment. In the past, a young person who developed a serious mental illness would have to tell the Social Security Administration that they would never work again in order to access Medicaid and the very treatment that would help them recover. With Medicaid expansion, they became eligible based on their income making it easier to access care earlier and leading to them being able to go back to school or work.

NAMI Minnesota also opposes the changes in the Graham Cassidy bill to the private insurance market. This bill erodes the essential health benefit set by allowing states to opt out of coverage requirements for treating mental illnesses and substance use disorder and to charge more for people who have pre-existing conditions. Today, all the plans in the exchange 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 benefits at risk. We remember when many plans offered in Minnesota on the open market prior to the ACA did not cover mental health or substance use disorder treatment. It caused financial ruin – or worse - in many families.

If Graham-Cassidy were to become law, fewer Minnesotans would receive mental health care. This loss of coverage will not make the need for treatment disappear. Instead, more people will end up in other systems or with worse outcomes. This won't factor into a CBO report, but the costs to the state would be significant. We can expect hospitalizations to increase along with homelessness and more people with a mental illness will enter the criminal justice system. Without early intervention treatment, a young adult experiencing their first symptoms of a serious mental illness will be much less likely to complete high school and secure full-time employment.

At NAMI, we hear countless stories about the positive impacts that Medicaid has on the lives of people living with mental illnesses and their families. For one family, the parent's private insurance accessed through their employer did not cover the community services needed to meet the unique needs of their son, forcing them to rely on police assistance, hospitalizations, and numerous residential treatment stays to manage their child's mental illness. All of this changed when they were able to supplement their private health insurance through the Katie Beckett waiver and access community-based services under Medicaid. Now their son, who lives with multiple diagnoses including bipolar disorder, has the support system in place to live a more independent life. Another person who lives with PTSD has been able to access the mental health treatment he needs at an affordable cost through the exchange. He determined that without

insurance coverage through the exchange his mental health treatment would cost him \$66,680 a year versus the \$8,980 under the ACA.

Everyone living with a mental illness deserves treatment for their illness and that's why NAMI is opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill and any piece of legislation that erodes protections for pre-existing conditions, cuts Medicaid through block-granting or per-capita caps, pulls back the Medicaid expansion or allows plans to not cover mental health or substance use disorder treatment. Our mental health system is still under construction, and after years of underfunding we cannot afford to erode coverage and decrease access to treatments and supports for anyone living with a mental illness.

We know that you are interested in increasing access to mental health and substance use disorder treatment, so we urge you to reflect on the negative impacts that passing the Graham-Cassidy bill or any bill that will destabilize our mental health system in Minnesota will have. Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sue Abderholden, MPH
Executive Director
NAMI Minnesota

[REDACTED]
St. Paul, MN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Join the movement! **Walk with us** on **Saturday, September 23rd** to change perceptions of mental illnesses.



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne-Christine Strugnell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable healthcare is a human right

Every one of us needs quality, affordable healthcare, and government should help to make it a basic human right for all and not a luxury just for people who have money. . Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I think of my cleaning lady and all she goes through to get her boy—who has type 1 diabetes—the care he needs. She, him, they, democrats, republicans... every single one of us! deserves affordable care. I urge congress to work across the aisle to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Regards,

Anne-Christine

Anne-Christine Strugnell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Murr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

David Murr

[REDACTED]
Louisa, VA [REDACTED]

Dear Members of the Finance Committee:

My family and I rely on affordable access to healthcare. As a father to a child with asthma, I'm keenly interested in the effects of Graham-Cassidy on the many people with pre-existing conditions and their continued, guaranteed, affordable access to health insurance.

I do not support Graham-Cassidy and would ask each of you to vote against it. It's bad for my Commonwealth and for most Americans.

Graham-Cassidy is not a bill that any Senator should be able to vote for in good conscience, for any number of reasons, including the lack of transparency surrounding the writing and hearings of the bill and the lack of genuine effort by some Senate Republicans to work with Senate Democrats on a legitimate ACA-repair bill.

It is unfortunately increasingly apparent that Senate Republicans (and their counterparts in the House, quite frankly) are interested in little other than fulfilling a campaign promise to "repeal Obamacare," regardless of whether it would actually do that entirely, or what that actually means in terms of the contents of the bill and what it would mean for hundreds of millions of Americans, including the poorest and most vulnerable in our society—but also everyone else, regardless of their socio-economic status, who rely on important protections afforded by the ACA. Federally-mandated affordable coverage for those with pre-existing conditions and coverage for essential health benefits, as well as limits on lifetime caps.

Although I do not believe the ACA is a perfect law by any stretch of the imagination, and would prefer a different path toward universal health insurance coverage—there are many excellent models around the world with varied approaches to borrow from (Canada and Germany, for example)—but tweaking the ACA, at least, would be a good start, rather than scrapping it and replacing it with an ill-thought-out hodgepodge of a bill that actively harms so many Americans.

Let's work together and let's do better for our country. First, we need to be working toward a common goal: making sure every American has access to affordable healthcare coverage. Graham-Cassidy does not do this.

Finally, I want to thank my Senators, Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, for opposing this bill.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

David Murr
Louisa, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kris McCoy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

Under our current administration, I live in constant fear of losing my health insurance as a young survivor of breast cancer. I also provide for my gravely ill mother, who depends on Medicaid for her health care. Should the ACA be repealed, we might die—literally—just like so many thousands more.

So PLEASE, I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Please prevent 32 million people from losing their health coverage. Please refuse to destroy Medicaid, which would only serve to harm the most vulnerable members of our society. I beg you.

Kris McCoy
Chicago, Illinois

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony: No on Graham-Cassidy death bill

Dear Senators,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill! I have a pre-existing condition with breast cancer. Our son has a pre-existing condition of traumatic brain injury, my husband has a heart condition, my mother has had also breast cancer. I would bet that you, your family and friends are also humans and suffer from some sort of pre-existing condition that health insurance companies would hold against you/them. If health insurance is not affordable, people will suffer and die!

I have been cancer free and healthy for 5 years, yet I pay \$700 per month for my own coverage and that's with a \$5,000 deductible. Fifteen years ago when applying for new coverage for our younger, healthy family I was denied because I had a common urinary tract infection in the past year! Health insurance in America has been out of control for years. The biggest improvement came when Insurance companies were no longer allowed to hold pre-existing conditions against people and when they were required to spend 80% of their money on actual patient care rather than administration costs (salaries).

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

Sincerely,
Sherri James

[REDACTED]
Fountain Hills AZ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing.

My family and friends rely on quality affordable health care. Because of this I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bi partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Felice Cloyd

[REDACTED]
Bloomington, Indiana [REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ted Gelpi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition of the Graham Cassidy bill

I personally rely on affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing health condition and depend on medications on a daily basis. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Ted Gelpi
Brooklyn, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Mullins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Personal testimony regarding Graham-Cassidy bill

I will shortly send this plea to my senators, but forward this to you now given the short timespan:

Dear Senator,

I feel I must protest the current bill working through Congress as a medical travesty and a deep injustice done due to poorly thought through eagerness to do right by your constituents. Especially for the Republican party, I understand the deep-seated desire to push through something on which you campaigned with passion.

However, I feel that you are doing your constituents and your posterity a deep disservice in the end. From all that I have seen so far, the injustice felt about denying people of limited means the ability to seek medical care *and not be financially ruined by a pre-existing condition* is deeply and widely felt. I am thankful that this is so. However, I do not feel that this bill is nearly well considered enough to adequately address such a malpractice of justice. Whether you are the most strident supporter or the angriest opponent of the ACA, the general math behind it stands. A great many people must band together to support the people who are the sickest and have the most limited means so that they do not fall through the cracks of society. One cannot wish for the technical support for mandatory allowance of those with a pre-existing condition and then financially cut them off at the knees because there are not enough people to support them in an insurance pool. This is simply how insurance works or doesn't work.

I am not immune to understanding the financial hardships of those who saw premiums rise or services fall under ACA. But the balance of the wrongs done, I feel, do not lie here. They lie mostly with those who have limited means to support themselves and their families. And it is this injustice to which the most attention must be paid.

I am a long resident of the state of North Dakota and have grown in affection for its modesty and straightforwardness. I once studied at UND to become a pilot alongside many other eager students. A single event ruined my chances and, till recently, I have been unable to hold a medical: the price of an aviation degree suddenly unusable. Had it not been for the largess of UND aviation's liability insurance, I would have been very hard put to it indeed. In fact what I thought was insurance offered by the university was merely accident insurance that did not adequately cover my medical issue. When I attempted to buy insurance, my condition was used, to my shock and panic, as a method to refuse access. Only the poorly finance high-risk pool was accessible.

My co-worker likewise has a large family. Due to a major health condition in the family, a sibling would likewise have been unable to acquire insurance had it not been for the ACA. Expensive, unfortunately. But insurance nonetheless.

Consider this. UAS research and development continues apace in North Dakota. Current research is being conducted that will become the pride of the state. Anti-collision technology being developed within our very lab and tested through numerous high-profile research projects will be integrated into commercial service. I am deeply proud of this effort and have willingly sacrificed a number of opportunities to help shepherd this technology in my own humble capacity. Had it not been for the ACA and the policy I hold as a part-time researcher, I would have left the state for greener pastures.

Please consider the realities and unintended consequences and consider my plea to temper your zeal to deal with the ACA. There is a right way to govern and a wrong way to govern. I feel that this urgency and passion is precisely the wrong way as it verges into intemperate desires to "put a win on the board" as they say. Your citizens' health should not be dealt with in such a careless way.

Your fellow citizen and North Dakotan,

Michael Mullins

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen husayko <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham Cassidy hearing

Please do not repeal Obamacare my family relies on this healthcare. Please come together in a bipartisan effort to improve this healthcare. Please show the voters you can do this. I have 2 adult children who have had Type 1 diabetes since 6 years old.

Please, please do not allow pre-existing conditions to be taken out of Obamacare.

Please figure your a way to improve healthcare for all.

Karen Husayko
[REDACTED]

Homer Glen Il. [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MARSHA VDOVIN <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a chronic illness, rheumatoid arthritis and the ACA has greatly improved my life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Marsha Vdovin
San Francisco, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Riley Boyd <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comments on GCH

To:

Graham-Cassidy Hearing
September 25, 2017 at 1pm Eastern
Senate Finance Committee

From:
Riley Boyd
[REDACTED]
Chestnut, IL [REDACTED]

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing to voice my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller Proposal. I do not have employer-based health insurance, so I purchase my insurance from the ACA exchanges. Recently, I fell sick. I had a temperature of 104.5 degrees Fahrenheit for 7 days. I could not eat or drink, I vomited frequently. I went to the the emergency room at a local rural hospital. I received an IV, medication, and a panel of blood and urine tests to try to determine the cause of my illness. No specific cause was found. But because of the IV and the medication I received from my hospital I was able to recover within 7 more days.

The ER bill was \$6042.44. I stayed for only 12 hours. My ACA exchange purchased insurance covered \$5695.57. If not for my insurance, I would be forced to reach a payment plan with the hospital, adding to my monthly payments for student loans.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller Proposal will likely make my health insurance unaffordable, if it would even be offered at all. It will likely shut down the rural hospital that I and many others in my community rely on for healthcare. It will make more people in my community reliant on the hospital due to cuts to Medicaid while at the same time taking away the hospital that they would then be forced to rely on. Whatever caused my fever and illness may return, and if I do not have insurance I will be forced to gamble that the illness will not kill me. If I'm wrong, I'm dead.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller Proposal will also remove protections requiring insurers to provide coverage for ten essential benefits and restricting premium differentials and drops in coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. I rely on the ten essential benefits to ensure that my mental health needs are covered. My mother, a breast cancer survivor, worries immensely that she will have her rates skyrocket, then be removed from insurance.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Proposal is short-sided, immoral, greedy, half-baked. I urge you instead to pursue bi-partisan fixes that will stabilize the current insurance system and improve it.

Please, do not take my healthcare away.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cokie Anderson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

As someone with a pre-existing condition who was unable to get coverage before the ACA, I am very concerned about the lack of protections for people like me in this bill. Allowing insurance companies to price us out of the market makes puts health insurance out of reach for most people like me. I work for a small business; my employer won't be able to get the kind of rates large businesses with big insurance pools can negotiate. There are millions of voters in this situation.

I know so many people--elderly, disabled, those with congenital conditions, those who can only afford insurance with subsidies--who will be hurt by this. I don't know anyone who will be helped.

Please work in a bipartisan manner to fix what's wrong with the ACA, rather than destabilizing the market and throwing vulnerable people to the wolves to make a political point.

Sincerely,

Cokie Anderson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Del Rio <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

When considering the Graham/Cassidy healthcare bill one has to wonder why are the Republican senators so afraid of the reconciliation rule expiring? If this bill is so good then it should stand up to open, bipartisan committees and hearings. If it's so good for the American people then getting 60 senate votes shouldn't be a problem.

Senator McCain said he couldn't support the Graham Cassidy bill because of the process in developing this bill. Healthcare reform must involve a bipartisan approach that includes medical professionals/organizations, insurance experts and the American PEOPLE!

Currently much of the GOP congress is ignoring the majority of their constituents.

This push to ram through the Graham Cassidy bill is not for the American people, it is so the GOP can keep their promise to their very wealthy donors of a tax cut.

This healthcare bill will not stand up to scrutiny by medical and insurance experts.

This bill is destructive to millions of Americans' healthcare.

Please oppose this harmful bill and return to regular order. The Senate can do better when they work together!

Sincerely,
Barbara Del Rio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Martha Dutton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

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

Martha Dutton
[REDACTED]

Yardley, PA [REDACTED]

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My sister was diagnosed with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis at 18 mos of age. She is now 36 and a mother to three because of the good health insurance gained through my father's employer. However, as an individual who would have already exceeded lifetime caps and with pre-existing conditions, her continued health depends on the protections put into place by the ACA. As a 33 year old woman myself, I rely on the contraception coverage provided by the ACA and will likely someday rely on the maternity coverage. These are essential health services for over half the population and taking them away is pure misogyny. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Martha Dutton

Yardley, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Acevedo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee

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

Debra Acevedo
Perry, UT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: heather foster <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Kill the bill

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

I have asthma and have several friends with even more pressing pre-existing conditions. Thanks to the ACA and the healthcare that I receive as a Master's student in Art Therapy at NYU, I am finally able to receive the preventative healthcare I need.

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

Sincerely,

Heather Foster
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeff Slepak <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH Comments

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

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

Thank you,

Jeff Slepak

[REDACTED]
Buffalo Grove IL [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cameron Wasson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017, 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In opposition to the Graham Cassidy bill

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

I am a self-employed commercial artist and college professor, without health coverage from any employers. As such I purchase my health insurance through Covered CA. In the lean years is saved my butt; in prosperous years I simply paid the addition adjusted tax. After a long and ridiculously healthy and active life, I was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2015 and had to reduce my work hours to go through the treatment. As of today, I am currently clear of cancer...but I'm now a "pre-existing condition" as are many members of my family. Nearing retirement age, I can only see that classification as life or death...and something that SHOULD NOT be politicized!

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

Sincerely, Cameron Wasson
Kentfield, CA [REDACTED]

Cameron Wasson
Wasson Design & Illustration
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stormy Johnston <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy

The Graham-Cassidy bill will harm far more people than it'll give rich folks money. This bill is way out of line when it comes to taking care of the citizens of this country. The rich folks don't need more money, the middle class and the poor need more help. Many of the poor folks are the working poor and they have two or more jobs and are just trying to keep a roof over their heads. Harming them will not make you look good or get voted in when you run again.

Thank you for your time
Stormy Johnston



Virus-free. www.avg.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Kahn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I'm sure you know that a long, long list of physicians, hospitals, healthcare organizations, and insurers oppose Graham-Cassidy. This is a bad bill. You know it. We all know it.

If you don't have a better plan to "replace" the ACA — which you don't — then you shouldn't be tearing it down.

In fact, you should be working to improve and build upon the protections and advantages of the ACA, with the focus on high-quality care and affordable coverage for everyone in a stable healthcare market.

Why does U.S. healthcare rank poorly worldwide? Because you don't have the chops to do it right. But you could.

Start by rejecting Graham-Cassidy. Then fix the ACA. It's not that different from the system in Switzerland, which has top ranking worldwide. We could be there too!

Thank you for your attention,

Patricia Kahn, MS, Medical Librarian
Richard Kahn, MD
Tenants Harbor ME

Excuse the brevity of this email — sent from my iPhone.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: texasaldens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Senate Finance Committee Hearing on Graham-Cassidy

Comments for Senate Finance Committee Hearing on Graham Cassidy, 9/25/17
From: Cheryl Alden, [REDACTED], Austin, TX [REDACTED]

Please do not vote for Graham-Cassidy. My child was born with a birth defect. Removing the ACA protection for pre-existing conditions will raise our projected insurance premium to at least \$5,000 per month for our family, in the unlikely event that any insurance remains available to us. If we are left uninsured, our prescription drug cost will increase from the current \$70 per month to \$1,100 per month because the manufacturers' discount coupons we use are not available for the uninsured and there are no generic alternatives for the drugs we must take.

Children with birth defects must use the healthcare system to survive, but our experience prior to the ACA shows how the enormous cost gouging of the uninsured cuts off healthcare access and quickly bankrupts their families. We could clearly see this cost gouging when comparing the cost of two births that were 18 months apart, one covered by maternity insurance and one without maternity insurance. For the uninsured birth, we were charged 5 times more by the hospital, 10 times more for laboratory tests, and 4 times as much by the doctor, despite paying in full at least 30 days in advance of services.

Children like mine, born with birth defects, require multiple surgeries plus a decade of physical and occupational therapy in order to learn to eat, talk, walk, or hold a pencil to write. Hospitals are not required to provide these services to the uninsured because they are not life saving. Parents have to fund \$20,000-\$40,000 per year for therapy and then find some way to pay the tremendously inflated cost of surgery if they are uninsured.

Texas is under investigation by the Department of Education for secretly ordering schools to cut spending by 1/3 for educating children with disabilities, relative to the rest of the country. This cutback transferred the responsibility for educating children born with birth defects from the school to families, forcing mothers like myself to give up our careers to educate our children, thus making us permanently dependent on private insurance. We have to have the protections provided by the ACA for both ourselves and our children.

Please vote against Graham-Cassidy. Children born with birth defects deserve access to critically needed medical care.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Rapoport <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Hello,

I am very opposed to the Graham, Cassidy bill. Coverage for preexisting conditions is too important to be left to the states. I depend on the ACAs subsidies to be able to afford healthcare and I and many others will lose coverage if it passes. We need a bipartisan fix of the ACA.

Thank you for taking my comment

Robin Rapoport

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Salek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Kill the bill.

Think of your children's children (if our nation survives this "president") and your grandparents as you vote. Don't all Americans deserve health care?

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Salek

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tomas gaspar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I oppose the passing of the Graham-Cassidy bill. Though, I currently receive Medicare, many of my senior friends who are not yet 65 years of age are faced with not being able to afford quality and 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,
Thomas Rodriguez Gaspar
Las Vegas, Nevada Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Raelyn Joyce <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassady bill

Medicaid has saved many lives and kept million healthy. I have family, friends and neighbors who rely on Medicaid. My son relies on Medicaid for his health and well-being. For this reason I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Congress needs to work in a bipartisan manner to improve the ACA.

Sincerely,

Raelyn Joyce
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Ramsey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare.

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

My family is just a normal American family 2 parents, both working full time, 1 son, one daughter, both Sophomores in college. If we can't afford our insurance our children will be kicked out of college due to the laws in each state where they attend. I have controlled adult onset diabetes. No complications, well under control.

This new healthcare bill would cause my premiums alone to jump to over \$17,000.00 per year. This might as well be \$1,000,000.00 as I can't afford it anyway.

Is this really what this Republican sponsored bill was intended to do?

I can't imagine a group of people who would hate my family this much as to deprive my children of their mother by refusing to allow here affordable healthcare insurance. This is inconceivable to me.

The Federal Government caused the disease of adult onset diabetes by letting the "sugar industry" take charge of the dietary recommendations against fat and heart disease. The reality was, and remains, that fat doesn't induce heart disease. Sugar does. Yet, our Federal government continues to permit and promote excessive consumption of sugar in the United States.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. AND removal of sugary products in our schools.

Sincerely,
Patricia Ramsey, Ph.d
[REDACTED]
Nicholasville, KY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andres Moreno <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to ask you to oppose this bill: it doesn't do enough to ensure that our citizens will have appropriate health care coverage. In particular, the bill does not address the demographic changes facing our country and places the burden on individual states which will result in a patchwork quilt of lesser quality care.

How can the Senate consider this bill in light of just having approved \$700B for defense, \$60B more than the President asked for?

I hope sincerely that you will do the right thing and not move this bill to the floor of the Senate.

Thanks!

Andres Moreno
[REDACTED]
Minneapolis, MN [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pastor Sandra D'Amico <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Urgent regarding today's Vote.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. i am also a city pastor who sees many others who not only rely on Medicaid, and affordable health care for pre-existing conditions, disabilities.

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

Sincerely,

The Rev. Sandra D'Amico
[REDACTED]
Warwick, RI [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy Detrano <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday Sept. 25, 2017

Judy Detrano
[REDACTED]

Lambertville, NJ [REDACTED]

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare, particularly as a cancer patient. Because of this, I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My pre-existing conditions and disabilities are maintained with a quality of life by the care I am grateful to afford through my medical insurance and Medicare. Please work with a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA-NOT repeal of it. We should be able to offer affordable (if not free) Healthcare for all Americans!!

Sincerely,

Judy Detrano

Lambertville, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Balto <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save Medicaid

Good afternoon,

My name is Catherine Balto. I'm a resident of Little Silver, NJ and my seventeen year old son has special needs. The Senate is considering a bill, the Graham-Cassidy bill, that proposes devastating cuts to Medicaid and removes protection for people with pre-existing conditions. Several million people rely on Medicaid for critical services that help them live and participate in their community. I am asking senator Joseph Kyrillos oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, or any other bill that cuts or caps Medicaid funds.

Best regards,

Cathy Balto
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Hennessey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop with the Nonsense Already.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Chris Hennessey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Phoenix, Arizona [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: N R <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill is illegally bribing states to vote in it's favor

Hello,

The Graham Cassidy healthcare bill is written in a way that manipulates the vote by offering more money to Maine and Alaska in order to bribe Senators Collins and Murkowski. This is improper and possibly illegal and should be reigned in now before our law making bodies are corrupted by bribery.

Thank you,

Veronica Ross
Braddock, PA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Wyckoff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing on Monday, Sept. 25

Dear Senators:

Being a senior on Medicare, I have no Medicaid or ACA stories to tell, but all indications are pointing to chaos in the insurance marketplace, and an unknown degree of other unforeseen economic consequences, if Graham-Cassidy—or any other recent version of an ACA repeal-and/or-replace—should pass without significant mitigating amendments. My husband and I are already noticing a "trickle-down" effect in our own Medicare Advantage plans— including much higher premiums for 2018, changes in drug tiers, and (worst of all) interminable and exhausting hoops to jump through in order to obtain covered diagnostic procedures.

Graham-Cassidy is an economic disaster in the making, which is bound to have economic repercussions far beyond health care itself, and I continue to hope that both Republicans and Democrats can come together to fix what's wrong with the ACA, rather than throwing the baby out with the bathwater.

Sincere thanks for your kind attention in this matter.

Andrea Wyckoff
[REDACTED]

Eugene, OR [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda KISSLING <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement on the record-Graham/Cassidy bill

I am writing to urge my Senators from Pennsylvania as well as the full senate to vote no on this Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill will negatively impact my state as well as the country as a whole.

People with pre-existing conditions are not guaranteed coverage under this bill. I have endometriosis and had surgery 3 years ago to remove a cyst from one of my ovaries. Having endometriosis causes me to suffer with painful periods, that includes nausea, abdominal pain and back pain. Under this bill, I could very well be considered as having a pre-existing condition. Insurance companies would than be able to charge me more for coverage. I am also of child bearing age. This bill could cost women who become pregnant \$17,000 more for coverage.

Every American deserves affordable healthcare no matter where they're from or how much money they make. Please do what is best for every American and work in a bipartisan fashion to improve the ACA.

Thank you,

Amanda Kissling

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Garfield <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Sarah Garfield
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to ask you to expose and vote down the current Republican healthcare proposal to overturn the Affordable Care Act.

The G-C-H-J Proposal has become more crazy as each day passes. Today I have learned there is a blackmail approach unfolding which attempts to sway Republican Senators from Maine, Alaska and Kentucky to vote for this Bill.

I am a US citizen. I care about ALL the citizens of ALL the states of this Union, not just my state of California! The Senators that put this Bill together, along with the ones that vote for it expose their lack of compassion for ALL US citizens.

This Bill has been hastily slapped together and constructed in the shadows without outside input. It takes protections away from our most vulnerable citizens whether they be poor, pregnant, old, have pre-existing conditions or live with a condition that requires lifelong & expensive care. Then, in 2027 this Bill takes away the Block grant funding for states. What happens then? All of this exposes a disingenuous G-C-H-J Bill meant to be jammed through Congress for political purposes.

I ask you Senators to either work toward the **long and Collaborative** process of fixing the imperfect ACAor, better yet, get rid of the insurance companies and provide Healthcare for all citizens. Perhaps then we could stand proudly with every other industrialized nation.

I want to remind you that we have a socialized military(not paid for on a state-by-state basis). Why not a socialized healthcare system?

Respectfully and with extreme frustration,

Sarah Garfield

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barry Nathan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care bill

Committee members:

I most strenuously oppose all iterations, including the latest, of the Graham Cassidy health bill. I have practiced pediatrics for 36 years, and have seen the tremendous benefits of the ACA, and dread the loss of those benefits. While flawed, the ACA should be strengthened, not gutted. Do the right thing.

Barry Nathan, MD

[REDACTED]e
Ann Arbor, MI. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Blackmer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

To the Senators of the United States of America:

As a young person just starting out in my career -- I am employed by a small, woman-owned business in its 3rd year of existence, with only 3 employees -- I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. My employer, the sole founder of small business who also cares for two children and a sick husband, relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My mother, approaching retirement while managing a chronic disease, relies on quality, affordable healthcare.

- ✦ The people of this country deserve a compassionate, careful effort to improve the ACA - an effort given all the due diligence such a critical topic deserves. This current effort to repeal and replace the ACA is more readily called careless than health care. Little care has gone into this crafting this bill, and it is evident that the
- ✦ supporters of this bill care little for the health of American citizens. We will not stand for this.

Without the ACA, I wouldn't be able to work at my current job: a small, 3-year old business where I have excellent mentorship and am gaining professional skills that will serve me for decades. Without the ACA, my boss, who is also the founder of this business, would have to abandon her dream of entrepreneurship, close down my place of employment, and find a job that guarantees health care, in order for her to care for her family. Business growth? Yah right. Unsure of the future of the ACA, my mother, who is managing a chronic disease while working a very demanding job, is afraid to retire -- and so she continues to work, to the detriment of her health.

You may be talking about principles and promises, but I'm talking about people's lives. Work together to improve the ACA, not rob people of the basic protections that allow all Americans to pursue health and happiness.

Sincerely,
Emily Blackmer
Truckee, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deb Notes <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband has retinal atrophy and might become blind and unable to work to earn a living. We could lose everything that we have worked so hard to have. One income is not enough.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please please vote no on this inhumane bill.

Sincerely,

Deb Hydon

[REDACTED]
Palm Springs, CA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Irene U. Albert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Honored members of the Senate Finance Committee:

The last nine months have been nothing short of a nightmarish rollercoaster ride for so many Americans. You must all be aware of the many and varied reasons this is so. Each new day brings reports of how the present administration is removing safeguards in education, the environment, foreign affairs, public assistance, just to name a few; and all of which have the potential to very seriously and negatively impact our way of life.

Most worrisome are the repeated attacks on the Affordable Care Act. This administration's primary concern, viewed by ordinary citizens such as my family and I, is to find the resources to finance the huge, obscene tax cuts for the wealthiest individuals, corporations and business owners in our country – and to do that on the backs of the most vulnerable among us.

My husband and I are both retired and living on small pensions and Social Security. I have asthma. Though it is well-controlled, we would face an insurance surcharge of \$4,340.00! Where exactly does Mr. Trump think we are going to find that? Our daughter, a single mom, working part-time and enrolled in college classes toward becoming RN with a BS degree, was diagnosed with an auto-immune disorder four years ago. At present, her illness is controlled. But, please tell me: How, in goodness name, will she be able to afford a \$26,580.00 surcharge when she is currently only earning \$28,000.00 at most? Has anyone read the list of surcharges for the different medical conditions? I am sure all of you have seen CAP's report on surcharges. I have copied it below, just in case.

Condition	Surcharge as a share of standard premium	Surcharge in dollars
Metastatic cancer	3,500%	\$142,650
Lung, brain, and other severe cancers	1,790%	\$ 72,980
Colorectal, breast, kidney, and other cancers	703%	\$ 28,660
Diabetes without complication	137%	\$ 5,600
Rheumatoid arthritis and specified autoimmune disorders	652%	\$ 26,580
Major depressive and bipolar disorders	208%	\$ 8,490
Drug dependence	502%	\$ 20,450
Autistic Disorder	135%	\$ 5,510
Seizure disorders and convulsions	179%	\$ 7,300
Congestive heart failure	459%	\$ 18,720
Asthma	106%	\$ 4,340
Stage 4 chronic kidney disease	286%	\$ 11,650
Completed pregnancy with no or minor complications	425%	\$ 17,320

Please, look again at those numbers! I am reeling with the realization that we, the people, actually elected 'leaders' who are capable of this kind of heinous cruelty. Because that is what it is! I find it frightening and insulting to know that our country is 'governed' by a President and his Cabinet, a Congress and a Senate, many of whom have demonstrated again and again that they would not hesitate to hurt those who elected them by proposing and attempting to gain approval of such an utterly ignorant, inconceivable, heartless bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ana De La Cruz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017, 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Save the ACA. Vote against Graham/Cassidy

My letter to Senator Murkowski, although I am a constituent from NC.

Dear Senator Murkowski:

I am writing you because I read online that you were welcoming calls and comments from constituents outside of your state of Alaska. I sincerely thank you for that, because I am sure my senators Burr and Tillis will vote to repeal the ACA, no matter how badly it affects NC residents.

I respectfully ask you to vote no on Cassidy/Graham and to protect the ACA. As I said in a voicemail I left your office, the ACA has saved my family's lives. My husband and I are 53 yrs old. Through the essential benefits and after forcing my husband to have a colonoscopy, 10 polyps were found and removed. The doctor informed us that had my husband waited much longer, some were large enough to become malignant. The ACA saved his life.

For yrs I lived in extreme pain in my uterus, the pain was so excruciating that it impaired my ability to do most things, though I had no choice and had to work through the pain. I was referred to a surgeon who did a hysterectomy on me. It seems that when I had my last child 20 yrs ago, through c-section, my uterus was literally fused to my bladder. The doctor was surprised that I wasn't in more pain. It is the first time in many yrs that I can function normally.

My 20 yr. old daughter falls within the spectrum. She is high functioning, attends college and has a 4.0 in UNCC. Through the ACA we discovered she had asperger's at 16. We thought she was just a extremely bright shy girl. Who never wanted to be touched, look in our eyes, among other things. It broke my heart to find out she was harming herself, but as a result we ran to therapy where through the ACA she got the help she needed. It is a daily struggle for her to socialize, but she currently goes to therapy weekly (she's very responsible) and with lots of love and attention she is in a much better place.

I am forever grateful for the ACA, because without it we couldn't afford insurance. It literally has saved our lives. I could go on and on how the ACA has helped other family members, friends and neighbors, through simple procedures, that would have been exacerbated to the point of burdening the emergency room, but I understand that you are a busy woman, so I'll just end by, thanking you for your courage to stand up against previous repeal attempts.

Thank you and God bless,

Ana De La Cruz

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Nitson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy health bill

No to this new attempt to take health care away from the American people. Graham Cassidy would be very detrimental to the health of individuals and the public in our nation. The world is watching. Jennifer Nitson, voter, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Colleen Fong <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@johnnyisakson.com
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
September 25, 2017
Colleen Fong
[REDACTED]
Peachtree Corners, GA [REDACTED]

To Members of the United States Senate, The Senate Finance Committee, and All This Matter Concerns:

I am 61 years old and my husband is 65 years and 11 months old. He is on Medicare. I will be soon. We have worked our entire teenaged and adult lives and paid taxes. We are college-educated people who have raised and educated 2 children into responsible adulthood. We pay our bills, we pay our taxes. We are self-employed.

The passage of Graham-Cassidy in each and every iteration would make our insurance premiums unaffordable to us. We currently pay more than \$14,000.00 per year in premiums alone. That would sky-rocket as we would be placed in the old age group.

Additionally I have 3 pre-existing conditions, and probably more depending upon how draconian classifications would be. All indications of the meanness of the GOP bills are that the classifications would be extreme.

Our 27-year old daughter is a college-educated professional. She was hit by a driver who ran a red light 2 years ago and has had many procedures to fix her ailments which included concussion, broken nose, knee surgery, physical therapy, treatment for bladder and kidney problems which were caused by the accident. At 27 she has come near to her life time max and has many pre-existing conditions through no fault of her own. She would be uninsurable. You all know this.

I beg you to put American people before your donors. Do the right thing. Be on the right side of history. Save our lives.

Thank you,
Colleen Fong

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jim Emison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is not a health care measure, it is a health insurance destruction bill, so the wealthiest can get a tax cut & amass more wealth.

Vote no please.

Jim Emison
Alamo, Tennessee

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Shanafelt <shanafme@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express my objection to the Graham-Cassidy bill which is expected to be discussed within your committee. I have reviewed this bill, and it looks as though it will negatively affect healthcare in America as well as the American economy. I have family members who work in healthcare and they are concerned with residents in our community losing access to any healthcare insurance. I urge the Senate to follow through on the bipartisan manner in which they were looking at healthcare before this bill was introduced. I urge the US Senate Committee on Finance to reject this bill.

Thank you for your time and service,
Michael Shanafelt
Hollidaysburg, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bill Brand <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both my wife and I are seniors and depend on Medicare. Our adult daughter is disabled and depends on it as well. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

William Brand

[REDACTED]
Jackson Heights, NY [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Durr <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: the "Graham-Cassidy" healthcare repeal bill

Dear Members of Congress,

My mother died of melanoma 13 years ago, in part because she did not have health insurance. She was 59. She missed meeting two of her grandchildren. It was a painful and ugly death mitigated somewhat by a lovely hospice team. She and my father were both working at the time. It's a small tragedy in the big picture, but it's a large tragedy for my family every day. There are millions of these small-large tragedies. Health care coverage being made available to my mother would have given her more years of life.

I am dumbstruck by the fact that the majority of Americans (including MILLIONS of people who voted republican) DO NOT WANT REPEAL AND REPLACE, and yet both the house and the senate keep attempting to repeal and replace. When did you stop listening to your constituents? When did you stop caring about what they want and need? When did it become okay to stop both talking and listening to your constituents because you don't like what they are saying? Because their needs and wants don't conform to your vision of government? A full 52 percent of Americans do not want Graham-Cassidy passed, and only 20 percent are in favor. TWENTY PERCENT. Somewhere between 70 and 85 percent want Congress to work on reauthorizing funding for the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and work to stabilize the ACA marketplaces. These seem like such simple and obvious solutions, and yet many members of congress are simply ignoring them.

As a constituent I am amazed and VERY CONCERNED at the path the multiple attempts at repeal have taken. This attempt, like the others, is fraught with issues, not the least of which is the absence of both the CBO score and the hearings that should accompany such important legislation. If the legislation was strong and appropriate, if there was a true bi-partisan effort, legislation would pass. The fact that the republicans keep needing to squirm around and have votes at ridiculous times without proper debate speaks volumes.

The voting public is more informed than ever, and we will continue to be. This is a good thing, but will mean that Congress is held accountable. Surely this is the way the system was designed and is meant to function.

Amy Durr
Medford Lakes, NJ [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda Cook <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Partnership for Medicaid: Statement for the record for the hearing to consider the Graham- Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: P4M Finance Statement for the Record on Graham Cassidy FINAL.pdf

Good Afternoon,
On behalf of the Partnership for Medicaid, we would like to issue our official statement for the record for the Graham- Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal hearing.

**STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
HEARING TO CONSIDER THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY-HELLER-JOHNSON PROPOSAL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017**

The Partnership for Medicaid – a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition of organizations representing health care providers, safety net health plans, counties and labor – is opposed to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal to restructure the Medicaid program into a block grant or per capita cap model. We call on the Senate to protect Medicaid and to reject continued efforts that will roll back coverage for the 70 million people that depend on this vital program.

The Partnership is dedicated to preserving and improving the Medicaid program, so that it better meets the needs of the beneficiaries it serves. Medicaid delivers necessary health care services and other related supports to our nation's most vulnerable children, pregnant women, parents, individuals with disabilities, seniors, and other adults. Any legislation that makes fundamental changes to the Medicaid program must not undermine the quality of services or access to care for the populations that this safety net program has served for 52 years.

We strongly oppose continued efforts in the Senate to explore devastating cuts to the Medicaid program. The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal maintains near identical Medicaid provisions to those in the failed Better Care Reconciliation Act that would impose funding caps that threaten the viability of the Medicaid program. Medicaid beneficiaries rely on Congress to preserve the program and to make improvements that promote access and quality.

Cuts to Medicaid for budget gains are unacceptable and undermine the long-term stability of the program. The policies in this proposal are designed to meet fiscal objectives. They do not strengthen the Medicaid program, nor do they guarantee access to care. We remain in opposition to efforts that simply shift the cost burden onto local and state governments, health care providers and individual beneficiaries.

The Partnership strongly urges the Senate to protect Medicaid and reject efforts to dismantle the program as called for in the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

**While this statement represents the collective views of the Partnership as a coalition, it has not been officially endorsed by each individual Partnership member organization.*

Sincerely,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Meg Ruelius <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Grahamcassidy

My mine and my husband's health insurance costs went up 5k during Bush admin, 4.5 during Obama admin. If your bill does not bring our costs down, it is futile. Before ACA people with insurance were carrying the uninsured, now we are getting people to at least pay a portion. Work on getting people better paying jobs so that they can afford to pay for insurance. That will bring the costs down! Say no to Graham-Cassidy!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy goevert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health care bill

I have severe concerns about this bill.

Currently, I have Employer provided health care that I cost share. But I am nearing retirement I am concerned that given this bill, I will have to make the decision between purchasing health care, eating or having shelter. I am a single elderly female with no family.

I am a older female who has a preexisting condition (bio-chemical depression- I was born with this disease.). With my daily medicine, currently I have 3 prescribed and 2 over the counter, bi-weekly therapy and quarterly med checks with my psychiatrist, I can operate as a contributing member of the community. I have attempting to go without the drugs, therapy and med checks and the outcome was not productive for the community.

My understanding of this bill, will price me and my personal needs out of the market. Yes, this bill says that preexisting condition protection is a desire of the federal government, but, you give states the option to opt out of protecting preexisting conditions as they apply the block grants. There is no guarantee that my preexisting condition will be covered. I am a elderly single woman. I have no family to help out; I am on my own.

I also live in Colorado, the State has adopted TABOR ("Taxpayer Bill Of Rights [Senator Cory Gardner was one of the main voices in support limits state spending.]) The block grant program could be extremely problematic. The state could not increase the funding long-term if those who meet the requirements of the program increase in volume.

I also have a problem with the process. First of all the majority party, is attempting to address 1/6 of the economy in a rushed poorly crafted bill. Secondly, there is no time to get a full score on the bill. And the preliminary scores such as 32 million citizens being pushed off health care insurance with this bill over the next 10 years, are damning. Thirdly, the Republicans are not supporting our Democracy. This process froze out all voices except for the Republican. The Republican perspective is not representative of the totality of the country. You need to include the Democrats in crafting this bill not only so that different perspectives are represented. So that if there are issues in implementation the Republicans are not the only to blame.

Use your energy, to include NOT exclude other voices. Your behavior is showing that Republicans are afraid that their perspective is diminishing.

I and 67% of polled Americans believe that the way you address the challenges with the ACA deficiencies is to implement Single Payer not this monstrosity. Most US citizens believe that quality affordable Health Care is a RIGHT not a privilege that this bill addresses.

Unless the Republicans start listening to US citizens I fear your voice will be diminished on the federal stage/.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janice Nall <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO ON Graham-Cassidy!

We demand that you vote this appalling bill down. GOO, Quit trying to take our health insurance away!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brenda Witkemper <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Richard_Burr@burr.senate.gov; Thom_Tillis@tillis.senate.gov
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I write to you as someone's daughter, someone's wife, someone's mother, as someone who lives, breathes, dreams, and weaves my way through life, all in hopes of making each of the days I'm blessed to live as rewarding and as meaningful as possible. None of us wake in the morning with the promise of another sunset. But, as Americans, we do wake with the promises of liberty and protection, backed by the most powerful democratic nation on Earth.

As Americans, Senators, we may not be "*entitled*" to the care of medical humanitarian (doctors, nurses, radiologists, psychiatrists, etc.) – each of whom took Hippocratic oaths to "do no harm" - but we all have some expectation, as citizens of this great nation, that those who represent us – who legislate on our behalfs - will always choose the most humane courses of action in their governance. That brings me to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill...

More than thirteen members of my immediate and extended family have suffered and succumbed to varied forms of cancer (breast, skin, lung, and liver). Others have suffered the devastating impacts of diabetes (up to and including amputation). Still others rely on daily medications that control the effects of their conditions (ailments, such as epilepsy and arthritis) and enable them to live a quality of life that allows them to continue contributing toward our collective good. As most of you know, healthcare is expensive. Diagnostic tests, such as MRIs can run hundreds of dollars per round of images. The costs associated with surgical procedures, coupled with hospital stays, easily escalate to tens of thousands of dollars. And certain maintenance drugs – both preventative and aimed at reducing pain and fatigue, sometime cost hundreds or even thousands of dollars per vile.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is a travesty in that it removes protections for those who've suffered the above illnesses and many more. Should states raise costs for those with pre-existing conditions the result will be millions of unprotected, uninsured Americans. That prospect sits like a rock in the center of my heart... NO CITIZEN of this great nation should ever be priced out of life-saving treatments... treatments and quality care that is readily available in this great nation. And it is unconscionable that any of you would vote in support of a bill that would put millions of everyday Americans at risk, while rewarding the wealthy.

I urge you, as a daughter, as a wife, as a mother, as an American... to vote no on this bill.

Sincerely,
Brenda Witkemper
NC citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Kantner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Citizen opinion on the Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern,

The ACA needs fixing, but a repeal as defined in the Graham-Cassidy bill is not a fix. It will create a bigger problem of known and unknown consequences for Americans who must purchase their own health insurance. I will need to purchase my own health insurance on the open market when my COBRA insurance runs out, and at age 62 currently, I am aghast at what the Republicans in the Senate think is a good direction for "fixing" the ACA.

Everyone should wait for the CBO assessment, even if it means waiting till after September 30, as that is the responsible thing to do with any decision that will affect so many people. Ramming it through does not speak well for the Senators who support the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Laurie Kantner
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Adam Boisvert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy Graham plan

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my complete displeasure with the Cassidy Graham plan that is coming before the Senate. I find it to be completely irresponsible and a major step back for our country. Civilized society is civilized when all people are cared for and none are left behind, we must join other industrialized countries (and some 3rd world countries) and make health care a priority and not a business.

Thank you,

Adam Boisvert

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Garcia <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a citizen concerned that the Graham-Cassidy health bill would cause many Americans, including members of my own family, to loose access to critical health care. I am particular concerned about reports that this bill wold remove the requirements for plans to cover "essential benefits" such as mental health services and maternal care. From my own family's experience I know that access to mental health care in a time of crisis can be the difference between quickly regaining stability, and long term illness and unemployment.

I strongly encourage the Senators to slow down this process, wait for the full assessment of impacts before voting, and seek durable bi-partisan solutions that can bring needed stability to the health insurance system and to the vulnerable Americans that depend on the ACA for access to health care.

Thank you,

Margaret Garcia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: WANDA Foglia <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health "Care" Bill

The idea that lawmakers would rush through a bill without a CBO report and thorough discussion of the ramifications of the new law on such a complex and important bill is horrifying.

It is time for a bipartisan effort to fix the problems with the current law and provide health care to citizens the way every other western developed country has managed to do.

Cuts in medicaid that would leave many pregnant women without prenatal care and children without adequate health care will just create many more expensive problems down the road.

Sincerely,

Wanda D. Foglia, J.D., Ph.D.

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jamie Christensen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

To whom it may concern;

I am writing because I am concerned about this newest repeal healthcare bill.

I am someone who will be affected by a lot of things in the new repeal bill. I am a woman and I have had a pregnancy. Someday I may want to have another one. I am currently using birth control to not have a second pregnancy. My understanding is that this new repeal bill will get rid of most of the rules that ensure women get the healthcare they need.

When I was younger I didn't make a lot of money and neither did my husband. I went to planned parenthood to get my yearly exams and my birth control because I didn't have insurance and I couldn't afford to go to any other clinic to get this care. Without planned parenthood my husband and I would have had a pregnancy and child well before we were ever prepared or able to afford either. This repeal bill wants to rip that essential care away from women, women who do not make enough money to get healthcare and essential medication from any other health facility. I do not understand why anyone would want to do that. To hurt women like that. It makes no sense.

I also understand that this newest repeal bill will take away the mandatory prenatal and maternity care. This will directly affect me and my family if my husband and I decide to have another child. When I was pregnant with my son I saw a lot of doctors. I saw my normal OB, I saw a maternal fetal specialist, diabetes doctors and a nutritionist. Because while I was pregnant one of the many things that happened during my pregnancy was I developed gestational diabetes. Being able to see all of these doctors and getting all of the tests and care that my son and I needed was what directly resulted in our being as healthy as we were when he was born. If the mandatory care is taken away then I and many women like me won't be able to afford all of that care and might not have the outcome that my son and I did. This is not even remotely acceptable. If you care about people and families then you would make sure that this care is mandatory and that all women and babies are able to have the very best care for the very best outcome they can get.

I am also extremely concerned about the lifetime limits coming back and pre-existing conditions being grounds to not be accepted for health insurance. I know SO MANY people who have preexisting conditions. I have a very dear friend who had blood cancer and needed a life saving bone marrow transplant. Thankfully she beat the cancer. But she will still need medications and care through out her life. She deserves to not have that taken away or be so expensive she can't afford the health insurance she depends on. I also have a family member who received a double lung transplant. She has CF and the double lung transplant has drastically changed her life. She can now breath better than she remembers in her life. She is able to run and be active. Something she hadn't been able to do before. She also needs medication for the rest of her life to make sure her body doesn't reject her lungs. If lifetime limits come back or preexisting conditions become reason for not getting insurance again, what will she do? What will her family do? How will this affect her and her husband and children?

Please understand that this bill will adversely affect many, many people. Taking good things away is not the way to fix healthcare or heals the American people.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelli Beechler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve ACA- don't replace with 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,

Kelli Beechler

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kaitlyn Preston <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Hello, my name is Kate Preston. Thank you for providing this email, and making it easy to understand. I will admit that insurance of any kind still goes over my head a bit (I will be 25 in October, so this is all slightly overwhelming and new) but this plan sounds, for lack of a better word, terrible. I know you and the hospitals are not to blame. I'm assuming this link was to provide an opinion? If not, disregard. But again, thank you for taking the time to explain everything.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Vote NO on "repeal and replace." If it hadn't been for the ACA I would not have been able to get affordable coverage for the year after my group coverage ended and I was eligible for Medicare.
The current "replacement" is a disgrace. Stop playing politics and fix the ACA.
Anne Baumgardner
Corrales NM

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ben Umholtz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Lindsey-Graham Act

Dear Congresspeople,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Lindsey-Graham Act. My family relies on the system in place, and the Lindsey-Graham Act offers no guarantees of future coverage for us. Indeed, it offers no guarantees for millions of Americans. I also object to the partisan and rushed manner in which it was devised and is trying to be implemented. This has happened with no input or support from the minority party and without waiting for it to be scored and assessed. This is not how a functional government works. For all of these reasons, this act faces my determined opposition. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ben Umholtz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elianne Lieberman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senators.

I agree with you that our too many people have too high insurance coverage and deductibles that are also too high. However, the the way to get to affordable healthcare is not to repeal the ACA, but to have a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Under that bill, the people of Oregon, the state where I live would be hurt by this bill. According to a study by the left-leaning Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Oregon would lose more than \$3.5 billion over the next decade under the Cassidy-Graham Block Grant proposal. An analysis in the New York Times this week shows Oregonians face the biggest cuts per person in the nation. A second study, by health consulting firm Avalere, has Oregon losing more than \$13 billion over the next decade. And a third study by Manatt has Oregon losing more than \$35 billion. This means that real people will lose their health care coverage.

In addition, by allowing states to receive wavers for insurance companies not to cover preexisting conditions, to reinstate lifetime caps on care, to allow them to charge more for people with chronic diseases, you are endangering the health of millions of people.

Here are two real life situations that if your bill was enacted could have and will affect the lives of 4 young people I know. My friend and his pregnant wife moved to Kentucky in this August to start a new job. One week into their new state his wife had to be flown to Nashville for an emergency delivery. Their son was 9 weeks early. During this time their new health started If their new insurance had a provision that preexisting conditions were not covered, then they would have to pay our of pocket for their son's care, his delivery and for all the post pregnancy care. This would be a bill that would be too large to ever be paid off.

During this past year my 19 year old friend received a diagnosis of a rare disease that prevents her body from producing collagen. There is no cure for this disease. She is constant pain and has trouble digesting food. She will be receiving a second surgery this week. She will be able to receive care and afford to pay for it because insurance companies are required to cover people with preexisting conditions and not charge them an unaffordable rate for coverage.

Again, the the way to get to affordable healthcare for all is not to repeal the ACA, but to have a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it.

Thank-you for your attention,

Sincerely,
Elianne Lieberman

[REDACTED]
Portland, Oregon [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anthony Piacenza <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

Any legislation that not only guarantees that fewer Americans will have access to affordable, effective healthcare, but that also creates loopholes through which the neediest among us can be denied or priced out of care, should be met with skepticism and fierce opposition from those legislators who swear to protect us. The most current iteration of this bill plays politics with people's lives, and attempts buy and trade acquiescence through bribes and short term gifts that will not only cost citizens in states who's senators are steadfastly for or against the bill, but will make even more pronounced the disaster that awaits the most vulnerable when the proposed funding cliff hits in 2027. This is a bad bill that is not only unworthy of the Senate, but would represent the poorest possible excuse for a political victory.

Sincerely,

Anthony Piacenza
Winston-Salem, NC

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aaron Kassover <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son has asthma and we would have trouble finding affordable health coverage due to pre-existing conditions without the protections of the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Aaron Kassover
[REDACTED]
Seattle WA [REDACTED]

Aaron Kassover
[REDACTED]
USA: [REDACTED]
Japan: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Litzner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dr. Sara Litzner
[REDACTED]

Cobleskill, NY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,
Please do not vote for this bill that will leave so many Americans without affordable health care.
Thank you,
Christine Vilardo

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA, not repeal it

To whom it may concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son is Autistic, and even with insurance his care and schooling are expensive. I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I hope you will listen.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Patty Adams Martinez
NY, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marrona Shore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please do not cut Medicaid and Medicare. I'm a private duty nurse and cuts by our state have already meant loss of hours and jobs. We need Medicare for ALL.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Val McKinley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Greetings,

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

Through the Affordable Care Act, my husband and I are covered by Medicaid - we are in our 60's and have no coverage through our employers. Medicaid allows my husband to get the life-saving prescriptions he needs daily. I never would have been able to afford a pre-cancerous biopsy earlier this year, which could have eventually resulted in full-on breast cancer.

Our young, healthy adult daughter, who is a college student, pays for her own health insurance through our state exchange and receives a partial subsidy (we can't afford to pay for her health insurance, even though she's 24). You need healthy folks like her to be in the system! If the ACA is repealed, she won't be able to afford to pay for health insurance as proposed by Graham-Cassidy.

My heart breaks for the many American citizens, especially children, with critical and chronic illness, who will lose their life-saving health coverage if Graham-Cassidy passes and the ACA is repealed. **How can you put these precious lives in jeopardy?**

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

Sincerely,

Valerie McKinley

[REDACTED]
Bothell, WA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Maloney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Parent of Child with Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy

Dear Friends,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story includes a 13 year old boy with the pre-existing conditions of cerebral palsy and epilepsy. He has cognitive deficits as well and we have chosen to have him live with us through his adulthood. Medicaid will be critical to his ongoing healthcare needs as a disabled adult. Furthermore, my role as a social worker and advocate moves me to remind you of the impact of Medicaid cuts on funding for Special Education services. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Warm Regards,
Robin Maloney
Clarkston, MI

Robin Maloney, BA/SW
Independent Social Worker
ROMA Consulting
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NASW-MI Member

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Stanger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Sirs:

My family on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. If insurance wasn't made more affordable by the ACA, my cousin would be bankrupt. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Susan Stanger
Mill Valley, CA

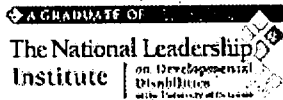
Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Jensby <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Wright, Kevin (Finance); Toal, Alison (Gardner); Habib, Rita (Bennet); Josh Rael
Subject: Graham-Cassidy comments
Attachments: Alliance letter on Graham-Cassidy Proposal 9.22.17.docx

Alliance respectfully submits the attached comments on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal being considered today by the Senate Finance Committee. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with further questions.

Sincerely,

Ellen Jensby, JD
Senior Director of Public Policy and Operations | Alliance
[REDACTED] | Denver, CO [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



About Alliance

Alliance is a nonprofit, statewide association of 19 Community Centered Boards (CCBs) and Program Approved Service Agencies (PASAs) in Colorado. We are distinguished by our leadership and advocacy of member organizations and the individuals and families they serve. Our efforts in the areas of public policy, state legislation, developmental disability initiatives, and best practices have positioned us as the premier resource for Colorado's community-centered system of services and supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Alliance members serve over 10,000 individuals with IDD and employ over 3,200 direct support professionals and case managers throughout Colorado. [Click HERE to view our current membership list](#)

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angela Brodsky <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy: OPPOSE

To The U.S. Senate:

I hope I am not too late. You did not specify on the Twitter post the time zone in which the comments must be sent by, so here's hoping (since I just saw it, because as am not on Twitter).

I am opposed to the Graham Cassidy Heller bill. I think, first of all, this bill is an insult to the intelligence and will of the American people, who have made their wishes very clear with the last attempts at repealing and replacing the ACA. WE DO NOT WANT THIS.

It is NOT OK, nor does anyone want, an insurance company to be able to deny them coverage for re-existing conditions.

It is not ok to take away Medicaid from the poor and needy. 92% of the people who use it are elderly, disabled, or children; many of them are a combination of these! A society is judge (and oh, we are being judged by other nations!) by how they treat their neediest citizens. I support healthcare coverage through Medicaid for those who are too poor to afford it, and who are in need of healthcare the most: the sickest, the most infirm, the youngest, etc. I WANT my taxes to go to this!

We should be working to ensure more people can afford healthcare insurance, not working towards passing a bill that will literally cause millions to lose it!

I do not support Graham Cassidy/Graham Cassidy Heller, and I want these objections to be the primary reason that the senate does not pass them.

Show the people, for once, that you care about THEM.

Thank you,

Angela Brodsky
Carrollton, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Van Deirse, Jenifer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

On behalf of the millions of Americans, I implore you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

It would be devastating to seniors, those with pre-existing illnesses, women, and children.

Please vote your conscience and not party or empty promises. The American people elected you to protect their interests, not harm them irreparably.

Thank you,
Jenifer Van Deirse



Jenifer Van Deirse
Director, Development
Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic

[REDACTED]
Smithtown, NY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Celebrate the 43rd Anniversary of Roe v Wade with PPHP.

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Baggett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Rebecca Baggett
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators:

Nine years ago my youngest sister went through a double mastectomy, chemo, and radiation. On September 14th, she finished chemo for the recurrence no one expected. She will have infusions of a new drug her oncologist hopes will prevent another recurrence, since tamoxifen did not, and six weeks of radiation. Since her first cancer appeared, she has become a single mom with two kids nearing college age. She will struggle to pay her medical bills, but without healthcare coverage for pre-existing conditions and AFFORDABLE health care for those who have them, she would be bankrupt. Without mandatory funding for PREVENTIVE healthcare for women, she would not have had the mammogram that discovered her invasive breast cancer when she was premenopausal and in her forties. She would be dead, and her children would have lost their mom when they were eight and six.

Without Medicaid my mother, who began working at sixteen and only retired in her seventies, would not be covered for the skilled nursing her advanced Alzheimer's makes necessary. Our family is not wealthy, and we all work -- we would be bankrupt trying to compensate for a lack of care. Any changes to Medicaid, to women's health care, to coverage for pre-existing conditions that allows insurers to place those needing it in a "high-risk" pool with premiums unaffordable to the average American, whether it comes directly from this bill or from unpalatable funding "choices" made by legislators state-to-state directly impacts my family and many others i love.

This bill appalls me and should appall you if you can imagine what it means to be an ordinary person in this country, someone who is neither wealthy nor in a position where they are guaranteed the kind of health care you and your family enjoy. It is past time you stopped spending our tax dollars on a vendetta against President Obama's legacy and worked together on sincere bipartisan efforts to improve the ACA.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Baggett
[REDACTED]
Athens, GA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jen Cohen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not gut health care!

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I believe strongly that all people should have access to equal and affordable healthcare in America. 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. Together let's work to bring the CARE back to healthcare in America. People, not politics. Let's work together, please!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Cohen

Cherry Hill, NJ [REDACTED]

CARE. TODAY. PLEASE.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Tate <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To Whom It May Concern —

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Some in our family cannot currently afford basic healthcare and suffer physically and financially as a result. This, in turn, negatively affects more of us as we try to cover the gaps in their coverage. I would like to be a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jessica Tate

[REDACTED]
Washington, DC [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Elisabeth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Heather Elisabeth and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a single parent (twelve years now, with no immediate family near me) and have two grown children who still rely on me. I have a disability that makes it almost impossible to work. I worry for myself and my children as i see our health care being wiped out by those who would not be affected by these changes. If you lived in my shoes, or those of anyone suffering from health issues, for even one week, you might understand our plight. If only your compassion came naturally.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. This can be done. Open your cold hearts, warm them to what this great country was intended to be. A country that cares.

Sincerely,
Heather Elisabeth and family
Brattleboro, VT

--
Sent from Hotmail Email App for Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Rediger, DVM [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Heller - please vote against this bill

Good morning -

Please vote no on GCH. My kids are 8 and 10, the youngest with Autism Spectrum Disorder, the oldest with Ehler Danlos Syndrome - both genetic conditions that they got from me. I didn't know that I had them until pursuing a diagnosis with the understanding that the ACA protected us from discrimination for pre-existing conditions. We cannot go back to a time where states get to choose what counts as EHBs; please don't allow insurance companies to charge us more because we are autistic and have EDS.

Thank you,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Dieckmann <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to implore you to listen to the millions of citizens in this country who oppose the Graham Cassidy bill, for a host of carefully-considered practical reasons having to deal with health care and the needs of the general population to have access to the care they need.

I am writing to ask you that all the people who comprise our great nation be supported equally in times of crisis when it comes to health care and wellness.

I am fortunate to be a 56-year-old mother of two with no health problems. My husband is about to turn 64, and is similarly blessed with sound health. Our children, ages 20 and 15, are robust and thriving.

But so many of our friends and relatives and their offspring are not so lucky. All of them are battling a deep fear right now about the future of their care on top of struggling with cancer and other serious ailments. I fear for a nation without the protections and safeguards necessary to ensure healthcare, and having educated myself on the topic, I am well aware that the Graham-Cassidy bill poses a direct threat to that.

Everyone agrees that the Affordable Care Act could use some reforming. I don't think that is in wide dispute. But so many people I know have benefitted from it, and have managed to get health care they can pay for, and that can protect them.

Stripping back the advances made by that act is not the way to go. People are terrified. We all know fear and anxiety only exacerbate existing medical conditions.

Please, show some compassion for our nation's fragile humans by opposing this bill, and desist from any legislation that does not fully support and protect all our citizens, especially the most vulnerable ones.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Katherine Dieckmann
[REDACTED]

New York, NY [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Marks <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Senators, I'm writing to urge you to vote no on this horrible healthcare proposal. It's certainly true that the current healthcare law could use some adjustments. But these repeal and replace efforts, and specifically this most recent one, would do significant harm to the vast majority of the very citizens you are elected to represent.

I am fortunate to be able to provide excellent healthcare for myself and my daughter through my employment. But my daughter, the sweetest and most joyful person you could ever be fortunate enough to meet, has autism. Her ability to provide her own private insurance in the future is unknown. I will do my best to provide for her for as long as I possibly can. But she and others deserve the dignity and care that our current health care plan would ensure her, and which the proposed legislation would almost certainly make impossible.

The proposed legislation is unacceptable and opposed not only by parents and individuals like myself, but by every -- literally every -- professional organization, from insurers to doctors to community-based groups.

I implore you to vote no, and to make appropriate adjustments to the existing law that will preserve and protect the dignity and care that each person in this country deserves.

Melissa Marks
Lake Oswego, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Ogren <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

The Graham Cassiidy bill goes in the opposite direction of providing affordable, accessible health care for those people with low to moderate incomes and/or preexisting conditions. To pass this bill without hearings or bi partisan effort, in the face of opposition from so many involved people and groups (medical associations, insurance companies, hospitals, AARP, etc) is undemocratic and an affront to the people of this nation Carol Ogren

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Saint Paul, Minnesota
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katrina Brinkley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

No! As an American, tax paying, citizen, I say NO !!! The bill will kill millions of innocent citizens, all for the monetary gains of the big money... WHY DO YOU NEED MORE MONEY??? WHY FORCE AMERICANS TO SUFFER AND DIE ? This is WRONG !!! I gladly & knowingly lend my taxes to help and aid those that aren't as fortunate as myself... I have friends & family that are still alive, because of the original ACA... Without what they have, they'd be mere memories of illness, pain & heartache... No on Graham Cassidy Bill !!!!

Katrina Brinkley

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandhya Nankani <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is personal as my father was diagnosed with lung cancer at a time when his insurance companies switched and I have seen first-hand how coverage can save not just the life of a family member, but also their mental health and financial life.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I am counting on you to come through for us.

God bless you.

Sincerely,
Sandhya Nankani
Demarest, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Rathe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill (AKA Repeal and Replace Obamacare)

Senators,

As a 61 year old man with diabetes and other health problem, I ***STRONGLY OBJECT*** to your push to repeal the ACA (AKA Obamacare). While that legislation was not perfect, it was a step in the right direction.

I heard Sen Cassidy in a TV interview yesterday keep repeating the unsupported claim that "...our bill protects those with pre-existing conditions." This is a prevarication, a non-truth, a lie.

If you vote 'yes' on this bill, your conscience and constituents will haunt you!

VOTE NO!

Sincerely, RR

--

Richard Rathe
[REDACTED]

Blog
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Sweet <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

I write today to state my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. As I watch what is happening in our country, my faith in the institution of Congress is shaken. My daughter and I were in the gallery observing discussion on the first bill that was proposed back in the spring. It was less than impressive to watch and difficult to explain to my middle school child what was going on. What she observed was adults who were less capable of organized, respectful, informed debate than her middle school social studies class.

My Community relies on quality, affordable healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act. It has provided health insurance for millions of people who didn't have it before and it has improved the health of our communities. Health insurance premiums BEFORE the ACA were rising unsustainably. The cost of health insurance in the US continues to be a problem. There is more work to be done.

Please do not pass something that has not been properly vetted and that will result in millions of people losing some or all of their insurance.

Respectfully,

Lisa Sweet
Rye NH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH comments

Do not let the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill pass!!!!

No complete CBO report is being done.

No full debate is being done.

The healthcare industry does not support these bills either.

How can you in all good conscious allow a reduction in benefits to your fellow man and citizens of this country be removed?

How can you gut Medicaid? How can you hurt people with mental illnesses that prevent them from working? How can you raise premiums so much to where people cannot afford it?

It is time to do the right thing-----and that is not protecting your lobbyists and giving tax breaks to the super wealthy!!! Take care of all of our citizens---Keep Obamacare and expand it to cover even more people.

Nancy McMurtry, Voter in Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alisha Murillo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I am asking, no begging you to vote No on this healthcare bill. My child is innocent and he will lose everything because of this! The American people are begging you to vote against this bill. I drive my son an hour to and from school Monday-Friday. I have sat through endless hours of therapy and doctor appointments. I have given up my career to make sure he can get the best of help. I have spent sleepless nights and early mornings because my son couldn't sleep or he woke up with night terrors. I drove for hours in the middle of winter, in the middle of the night to help him fall asleep. I've done it all. I watched my son bang his head until the drywall finally broke. And now I am watching my son succeed in a school for kids with autism and his Medicaid is the only reason why he gets to attend. I am asking that you not take this away from him, I am begging you please have a heart and fight for innocent lives like my son. I didn't ask for a child with autism, but God gave me one and he shouldn't suffer at the hands of lawmakers. So when you decide on what's best think of my innocent son who at the age of 6 finally called me "mom".

Thank you and I hope you make the right decision.

Alisha Murillo, a mom and autism advocate.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Earthlink <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely and have relied on affordable healthcare and healthcare insurance, and I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My pre-existing conditions include being a woman, Raynaud's Syndrome, a bout with the B-19 virus caught while volunteering at my daughter's elementary school, seasonal allergies, and two auto accidents where other cars plowed into me while I was at a dead stop! This has caused me to have ongoing joint pain and a rotator cuff shoulder surgery.

I worked in the non-profit sector most of my 40-year career, so salaries were not high, but the health insurance and co-pays were affordable. Now this proposed legislation would make both no longer affordable.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to stabilize the ACA (not undercut it) as a transition to National Improved Medicare for all.

Thank you,
Peggy De Pas

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claudia Viets <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Good morning,

I have great concerns regarding the health care bill you are proposing.

I don't believe there has been enough discussion or input from both parties.

Winning at all cost is not only sad it is pathetic. Pushing through this bill just so you can claim victory is irresponsible and mean spirited.

I ask you to scrap this bill, sit down with both parties and develop a health care plan that can benefit all Americans.

Claudia Viets

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carrie Hallam <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:03 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 ALL Americans deserve quality and affordable healthcare, which this proposal does not achieve.

This issue hits close to home. I have a 10 1/2 yr old daughter who is a cancer survivor with residual chronic medical issues. She was born with this rare cancer. She has been courageous and brave since day 1 of life and continues to be the same each day forward. Yet, she, like many others has a pre-existing condition which if this proposal were to move forward would make it difficult for us/her to receive affordable health coverage.

With this personal story in mind, do you see it fit that my 10 1/2 yr old daughter's health insurance cost more or for her coverage to not be considered the same as someone without a pre-existing condition? Did she ask to be born with cancer? To have the nerves in her bladder and bowels greatly impacted by her tumor at the base of her spinal cord? Could you look at your child if they had a chronic health condition or medical needs and say " I voted for a bill to be put in place that's threatens your health even more"?

Isn't it enough that my child, others children, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, uncles, aunts, cousins, friends have endured health issues and medical challenges already? And to think that you, yourselves, or your loved ones haven't been impacted by health issues? You would want to make it harder for them to receive affordable care because???? There is no answer that makes any sense to this question. I urge to sit and think about my story, the many stories or others, and probably stories of yourselves, and reconsider this proposal, and any other proposal, that puts up boundaries for any American to receive quality and affordable healthcare.

Healthcare is a right, not a priviledge!
Thank you for your time and consideration.
Carrie Hallam
Drexel Hill, PA

Carrie Hallam
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maryjane Jenness <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal September 25, 2017
Mary Jane Jenness 55 Lawley St boston ma

Trumpcare is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote yes on this bill will be remembered as vicious and thoroughly un-American. The majority of medical professionals and the actual population is steadfastly against this bill.

Regards,
Mary Jane Jenness

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Chmielewski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC Bill

We the people deserve better! No to Graham Cassidy Bill.

Erin Chmielewski
Cotati [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Neil Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

Do not advance this legislation. There is a reason every major organization representing physicians, nurses, hospitals, health insurers, medicaid administrators, patient advocates are urging the rejection of Graham/Cassidy: It will hurt Americans, rip away health care coverage from millions of Americans, threaten coverage for those already confronting serious illness, threaten the viability of hospitals providing essential health care services, and raise the price of insurance premiums exponentially, especially for older Americans and those with pre-existing conditions.

It is unconscionable this bill is being considered without a full analysis by the Congressional Budget Office. It is unconscionable legislation affecting one-sixth of the U.S. economy and the health and well-being of millions is being rushed to a vote without full, meaningful, inclusive public hearings. It is unconscionable this bill is being considered just to satisfy a hyper-partisan political objective with no real regard for its consequences. This process is the epitome of dysfunction and represents a cynical manipulation of the legislative process.

Reject this legislation.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Greg Marshall <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017, 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Sept 25 Hearing of Senate Finance Committee on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Sept 25 Hearing of Senate Finance Committee on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Greg Marshall - Austin, Texas

Can't understand how any Senator, who represents their state and works for all CITIZENS can in good conscience, take away the healthcare we get from ACA. It's NOT Obamacare, It's the Affordable Care Act and one that millions of American Citizens rely on. To push this horrendous, mean spirited Graham/Cassidy bill in would be detrimental to all citizens that now have healthcare for the first time. It is incomprehensible to us why you won't work to fix the problems with ACA so that it takes care of all health issues. The only explanation for this failure on your part is extreme prejudice against the first black president who managed to provide coverage for healthcare for all Americans. Pres Trump's willingness to remove online reminders about renewing healthcare from the internet, threatening to withhold payments to insurance companies so they withdraw from the insurance pool in states and you Republicans letting this happen, tells all of us that you work for your donors and yourselves and not for us. The extreme right wing, like Rand Paul, that feel your awful bill doesn't go far enough, are selfish soulless individuals. They don't understand or know the plight of millions of fellow Americans. Less military spending and boondoggle spending by GOP, would provide more than enough \$ to provide good healthcare for all Americans. The GOP actions trying to sneak & push this egregious healthcare bill through is why many more Americans are now going for Bernie Sanders Medicare for all. This is what happens when GOP try to hurt so many. Never mind the tax cuts you r trying to push through once ACA is gone. The ones who really benefit from these tax cuts are the extremely wealthy 1% people, who pay little or no taxes. Warren Buffet admits that the 13% tax rate he pays, VS the 33% tax rate his secretary pays is totally wrong. Removing ACA would benefit the 1% in this country, but not the 99%. This is what this awfully bill is about. If the GOP really cared about the citizens of this country, they would work to fix and make ACA better and stronger. We deserve a good, strong, caring healthcare system in the best country in the world. Maybe if we vote all GOP out in 2018, we will get that. For sure, if you vote to remove ACA and put Graham/Cassidy bill in, we will fire all GOP. You will then have shown all voters that we can't trust you to care about our country, only your mega donors.

Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Keckler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

....
There will be too many people without healthcare. They will be back to the ER and taxpayers will pay.
All people, including those who don't realize they will need healthcare, need to be covered.
What kind of United States do we want to live in?

Barbara Keckler

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roy Swartz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 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.

Roy Swartz
Findlay, Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Thornton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fw: ACA can be improved - just not repealed and replaced/Please say no.....

To the Finance Committee of the United States Senate,

I am writing to express my opposition to the repeal of the ACA. You must know that the GC Bill is worse, especially for me.

I am a breast cancer survivor, therefore have a pre-existing condition. My husband was recently forced to retire from the oil and gas industry. I am a private consultant. Without ACA I would not be able to obtain health insurance. With the new suggested bill I will surely not be able to afford the changes that the states will make and insurance companies will surely want to bypass customers such as myself.

Should you pass this bill, I most likely will die without being able to get coverage as I will not be able to afford yearly check ups, nor any treatments should my cancer return. It sounds fatalistic, unfortunately it will be the truth.

This bill is bad for most Americans as evidenced by every major Insurance Association, every physician Association and every hospital association and groups supporting individual diseases have come out against this bill as well.

There is no need to beat the clock to pass something by a simple majority and just because. The ACA needs improvement. No one denies that. Please work across the aisle to bring the best affordable coverage to the citizens of this great nation. Many of us, would like to see our premiums go down and prescription medicines more affordable. Surely something close to a one payer system might be more feasible then repealing a bill that has helped me, my son and so many others in need.

Respectfully,

Lisa Thornton
[REDACTED]

Howey in the Hills, FL [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daniel Goulden <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment

Do not repeal the ACA. People will die!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kevin kennison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to 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,

Kevin Kennison

New York, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joe Foley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill

Dear Sir or Madame,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is that for the first time under the ACA I was able to afford a good health care policy which I had not been able to do in the past. If the gains brought in by the ACA are taken away by the Graham Cassidy bill I will no longer be able to afford a good health insurance policy.

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

Sincerely, Joseph Foley
Harrisonburg, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristina Pereyra <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My family relies on the commonsense rules in current law: protection against insurance companies imposing lifetime limits, protection against pricing out people with pre-existing conditions. Graham-Cassidy would take away that baseline and allow states to set a patchwork of rules. In addition, some of those rules are a direct response to abuses which could return. Unless this law sets up new rules to prevent those abuses, families like mine will wind up bankrupt while insurance company CEO's take home hundreds of millions of dollars for bankrupting us.

My husband has ulcerative colitis. He gets chemotherapy every eight weeks to keep it in remission. While it remains in remission, he is a high-earning software architect. He pays lots of taxes and does his part to keep America in a position of technological leadership. Without lifetime limit protections, even his salary cannot keep pace with the cost of medications. He would go from a tax-payer to a tax-receiver: on disability.

The baseline protections of the ACA are good for America and good for the American worker. Our congress should be working (in a bipartisan fashion) to improve and strengthen the law, rather than repeal it.

Kristina Pereyra
Mountain View, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Neetu Singh <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposition Letter to Graham Cassidy Bill - Massachusetts Oral Health Advocacy Taskforce (OHAT)
Attachments: Massachusetts OHAT Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill.pdf

Good Morning,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony to the US Senate Finance Committee regarding the Graham-Cassidy-Johnson-Keller bill.

On behalf of the Massachusetts-based Oral Health Advocacy Taskforce (OHAT), I have attached our comments strongly opposing this proposed legislation. The impacts of this legislation will be devastating for millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents -we are hopeful that the bill does not pass.

Sincerely,

Neetu Singh, DMD, MPH
Manager, Oral Health Integration Project
Health Care For All
One Federal Street, Boston, MA [REDACTED]

P: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: J. Walker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

Senate Committee on Finance
Attn. Editorial and Document Section

Attn. Senator Hatch and Wyden,

I have been dutifully paying taxes for 25 years- I've never taken from the system other than student loans, which I'm paying back ten fold! I realize that part of what I pay for healthcare insurance goes to subsidize the less fortunate or those in need, that's fine by me. I'd rather pay for that than more military or Mnuchin and Price's plane tickets. I'd rather pay to preserve the health of the sick and uninsured than any security detail or golf trips for that sad excuse for a human being we call POTUS. Repealing the "Obamacare" is about your rich finks saving more of your own money and allowing tax cuts for the already wealthy. That, and trying to undo the legacy of the last president, who like him or not was superior to Trump in every way. You want to make health more affordable? Go after the damn pharmaceutical and medical industry giants, but no, you're all too busy getting kickbacks. This transparent act of greed you call the Graham-Cassidy bill is a disaster and a sad joke! Stop trying to repeal and FIX IT! If you can't, then single payer makes more sense than healthcare based on the interests of the plutocracy! You support Graham-Cassidy, and you are a shill for the Koch brothers and you all know it.

Justin Walker
[REDACTED]
Poultney, VT
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lena Holbert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:02 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. Lena Holbert
[REDACTED]
DEERFIELD BEACH, FL [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Please do not pass this bill. Do the right thing!

cathy seidler coenen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Lindsay Health Care Bill

We would like to express our concerns regarding the Graham Lindsay Health Care Bill that is coming up for a vote this week.

This bill substantially reduces funding for Medicaid which is essential in providing health care for the elderly, the disabled and poor who are the most vulnerable population in our society. It also provides no guarantee of coverage for pre-existing conditions or elimination of life time limits.

I have been a teacher of the visually impaired and have worked with students with disabilities for over 40 years. I have witnessed devastating effects upon families and their children when there is no medical support for the child. Even in the current medicaid system, it often takes months or sometimes years for a family to receive any support.

Please vote NO on this bill.

Judye Cooper

[REDACTED]
Des Moines IA [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate McCann <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Elizabeth Warren; United States Senate; Jim McGovern
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy

There are many reasons I oppose Graham-Cassidy:

- 1) I am a woman, and luckily was able to have a baby without going broke paying for coverage for pre- and post-natal care. I was in excellent health but was struck with severe preeclampsia, making an early delivery necessary, as well as an extended stay in the hospital for both myself and my beautiful baby girl. Thank goodness we were not bankrupted by that unexpected crisis.
- 2) Because I had a baby, I now would be subject to higher premiums due to preexisting conditions such as having been pregnant.
- 3) My parents are in their 70s and at that point, you rack up a lot of preexisting conditions. How long could they afford astronomical premiums for coverage? Would we then be responsible for deciding whether to send our beautiful brilliant girl to college or helping our parents pay for their medical coverage?
- 4) I am a mental health counselor. The shortsightedness of not making mental health coverage mandatory is, ironically, insane to me. Without the relatively inexpensive cost of weekly talk therapy and monthly medication appointments, a client is subject to relapses in depression, anxiety, and/or substance abuse, resulting in loss of job, housing, family, supports; and repeated hospitalizations, incarceration, or death. The cascading costs and negative impacts to client and family members is huge.
- 5) I am from Massachusetts, where we have smartly and humanely figured this health care stuff out. We would lose \$5,089M under Graham-Cassidy, which would redistribute it to other states that did not accept the Medicaid expansion. Any school child could tell you that is outrageously unfair.
- 6) It is the Senate's job to research, review, debate, compromise, and inform and be informed by the public's needs. If you are going to pass legislation, it better be a bipartisan effort, and it better be researched and scored by the CBO. Otherwise, you might as well ask North Korea to write us up a healthcare plan.

Thank you for doing the right thing by improving the ACA, not taking healthcare away from millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

Kate McCann
Worcester, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dianne Sperling [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I vote NO on Graham-Cassidy bill and the Senate should too

This bill passes the responsibility for administration of healthcare to the States. However, according to a letter from State Governors, the states are not prepared to administer this program. This can lead only to a denial or delay of benefits to the people who need them.

Furthermore, States that chose to expand Medicaid, and have systems in place to administer it, will receive less funds for this program than those who chose expansion. This will take health care away from millions of people.

To make this process transparent to the American people, you must wait for a CBO score. To do otherwise is a travesty of our democracy. To do otherwise is an attempt to bury the very essence of your work in secrecy, to deny the transparency that is required in a democracy. And, so I say, what are you afraid of?

Healthcare is a significant part of the American economy. This bill will have deleterious economic impacts not only to those whose healthcare is affected, but also in terms of jobs.

Additionally, numerous healthcare organizations, too numerous to name here, have come out against this bill.

Do your job! Your job is to do the best for Americans, to represent the will of the American people who overwhelmingly support the ACA.

It is not your job to base passage of a bad bill just to be able to say that you are upholding a campaign promise from years ago that people now understand is one that will cause hardship, pain and will take away benefits from you constituents.

Dianne Sperling
Evanston, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Schrantz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please stop the madness NOW.

These healthcare proposals WILL HURT MILLIONS OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS.

Keep Obamacare for now, work TOGETHER to find a FAIR compromise.

Please put PEOPLE over party.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. TO ALL OF US.

And in case you don't realize it, this situation SCREAMS hypocrisy- when Congress is EXEMPT from these changes that you want to rush through

PLEASE LET THIS GO FOR NOW. Work together for a FAIR POLICY.

Thank you.
Nancy
Cincinnati Ohio

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gmail.com <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Every major health related organization thinks it's a bad idea. This is being rammed through without debate or bipartisan collaboration--and before the CBO can evaluate it and issue a report on its economic impact. Important patient protections will be lost if this bill passes, and the most vulnerable (the sick, people with disabilities, people with mental health problems, people with addiction peoples, the old, the young, people with lower incomes...) will be devastated by a these changes.

Be on the right side of history. Do the right thing. VOTE NO.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anita Mortimer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Sirs/Ms:

I am writing to urge you to PLEASE vote no on the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. My son, although a HEALTHY 20-something now and a healthy boy for YEARS, was basically uninsurable before the ACA because of conditions related to his having been born prematurely. I had tried multiple times to get him private (not employer-based) health care in years passed, and was never able to do so. Instead I had no choice but to make sure I was able to provide employer-based coverage for him. Luckily, as a person with a good education and significant skills, I was able to do that consistently. Thankfully, because of the ACA, I was able to find a decent policy for him at a reasonable price just as I retired and went on Medicare. He did not receive any subsidy, we paid the full premium, but it was reasonable and the coverage good. I have other family members who have also been able to insure themselves or loved ones ONLY because of the provisions of the ACA. Graham-Cassidy would gut the provisions that make that possible for them. I have heard the "promises", but have done enough independent research to know that the promises are false, and that many will lose health coverage if this bills passes. I am mortified that in this country, where we clearly have the MEANS to make sure every person has guaranteed access to good health care, we apparently have still not mustered the WILL do make sure that happens. This latest attempt to repeal the ACA and put in its place something that is HORRIBLY inadequate is heartless and cruel at best, and suggests that Congress is not paying attention to what constituents are actually saying about health care. Please, do what is right FOR THE PEOPLE and not for "the party" or whatever special interests have managed to shout more loudly than the individuals who collectively voted you into office!

Anita Mortimer

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare and believe this is a right for all Americans. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which I believe will eliminate quality, affordable healthcare for hundreds of thousands of people. I and so very many other Americans would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Terry DiJoseph
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Widmayer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I would like to submit comments on the Graham Cassidy bill. I understand some Americans are upset because health care costs are going up-- so am I. I also understand some people feel they shouldn't have to get insurance. However, this bill is not going to fix the problem of expensive insurance. Right now, my family is lucky to have insurance through my employer. Thank goodness, because all 4 members of my family have something that could be counted as a pre-existed condition. Under this legislation, if I did not have employer funded insurance, we could be forced to pay much higher prices. We could also be denied coverage that covers our needs if there are no longer essential health benefits.

When my brother's girlfriend got unexpectedly pregnant, thank God that because Obama care had recently started, she was able to get insurance that covered her pregnancy at a price her family could afford. Otherwise I don't know what they would have done.

I really don't understand why our insurance is this way and why the sponsors of this legislation want to cut funding that provides insurance to our most vulnerable citizens. Other countries have solved this problem. They don't have endless Go Fund Me campaigns to cover the cost of medical care, people who have to declare bankruptcy because someone in their family got sick. My husband got sick once in his native country while we were visiting. A doctor came to the house on a Saturday night to treat him- for free, covered by their national insurance, no problem, no paperwork. I want that. Other countries have a system that works for all people, why is my government trying to make a system that works for fewer people?

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please No Graham-Cassidy

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because of the way it disadvantages women, people with pre-existing conditions, old people, and folks with disabilities among others. Fifteen years ago, when I was first out of college, I was stuck with a medical bill for a \$2000 MRI and \$1000 of physical therapy, because of what the insurance company ultimately argued was a pre-existing condition (a similar injury a year before). I was 22 and at the time, that was more than I made in two months after tax. I was lucky enough to have a family support network that helped me cover the costs without going into debt. Because of this experience, I believe strongly in the ACA's protection's, as well as the need to ultimately regulate insurance more, rather than less. (Later on, I moved to the UK, where I experienced first-hand how well a nationalized health system works.) There is room to make the ACA better, but this Graham-Cassidy bill is nothing but political spectacle that does not account for the real citizens' lives that will be hurt in the process. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Kate
San Francisco, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Glicken, Anita [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Just vote no

As the [REDACTED] I strongly reject the premise that the Graham-Cassidy legislation is good for America.

The Graham-Cassidy bill, like previous bills to repeal health care that were already rejected this summer in the Senate, would have a devastating impact on America's families. Specifically, Graham-Cassidy would:

- Cause more than 30 million people to lose their health insurance
- Make devastating cuts to the expanded Medicaid program. Under Graham-Cassidy, the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion would end altogether by 2027, throwing millions of people off their coverage.
- Cap funding for the traditional Medicaid program, which provides vital care to seniors, children, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.
- Cut funding for the financial assistance that helps people purchase insurance through the Affordable Care Act's insurance marketplaces.
- Allow states to eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions and to end the requirements that insurers cover a set of essential health benefits like oral health services, prescription drugs, maternity care, and mental health care

I seriously hope that senators pay attention to the issue beyond their political priorities and do the "right" thing for the constituencies they serve.

Passage of this bill will devastate tens of millions of our citizens and their families and result in a health care system that is crippled by the thoughtless work of those who are elected to protect the public.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Penelope Sencer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because no one actually thinks it will do anything to assure health care for all Americans! Seriously? Don't push through something horrible just to say something was done. We expect better of our elected officials. Please consider health care for all as they have in all other modern, civilized nations.

Penelope Sencer

13790
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Kuhn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

I support bipartisan cooperation to repair the Affordable Care Act. I do not support the proposed repeal of the ACA.

Thank you.

Ann Kuhn

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brenda Pinkney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My fellow elected officials,

I work at the Arc Howard County as a Direct Support Professional in the Community Integration Services department, providing day services for a wonderful group of seniors with developmental disabilities. These men and women once held meaningful employment positions in the community and some made enough money to pay taxes. Though they worked in the community without Medicaid they would not have been able live in the community, purchase medication, receive the medical or psychological care needed. Some have walkers or wheelchairs, and blind requiring one to one support daily, but with cuts in Medicaid the quality of life without theses supports would be devastating, in that they would be limited in mobility not having the human supports for daily living care, and to get them around to medical appointments; or funds to buy medications greatly needed to survive; physical therapy, and so much more.

We know all lives matter and the lives of seniors, of which I am one, and people with disabilities matter as well. Let's support our family members and not put them away into some costly institution. Help them to continue to live in the community. Vote not on the Graham - Cassidy bill, and take a stand for all lives, let the people who voted for you know you have not forgotten them and the promises you made to work for them.

This is one way to keep America great, vote no to the Graham - Cassidy bill.

Thank you for being a man of your word, working to make life better for all of the people.

Brenda H. Pinkney

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katy [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please say no!

Please say no to the Graham/Cassidy Bill! Enough is enough! Fix what we have instead of reinventing the wheel. Our lives and health is more important then checking the box of an empty promise. Do the right thing and stop this insanity. Say no to the Graham/Cassidy Bill!

Thank you,
Katy Gilliam

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephen Snyder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I cannot express enough how opposed I am to this bill. Every healthcare expert and medical association I've read about has come out against this terrible bill. It's not hard to see that states will be forced to drop consumer protections as they get squeezed by the cuts to federal funding included in the bill. As that happens, any short-term premium relief healthy individual will get from insurance companies being able to charge sick people more will evaporate as more and more people forgo insurance and being showing up at emergency rooms with serious conditions. It'll be the same horrendous situation we had before Obamacare. This bill fixes nothing, solves nothing, and the authors know it. We demand bipartisan fixes to the ACA instead.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Stephen Snyder

--

"Style is a result of our failure to achieve perfection." Will Eisner

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ronald Estep <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

Here's a roundup of what leading health organizations have said about the Graham-Cassidy Bill:

American Medical Association:

"...the Graham-Cassidy Amendment fails to match this vision and violates the precept of "first do no harm." Similar to proposals that were considered in the Senate in July, we believe the Graham-Cassidy Amendment would result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage, destabilize health insurance markets, and decrease access to affordable coverage and care."

American Academy of Pediatrics:

"I [Fernando Stein, president, American Academy of Pediatrics] must speak out against this dangerous, ill-conceived policy on behalf of our 66,000 pediatrician, pediatric surgical specialist and pediatric medical sub-specialist members, and stop it from advancing. "This bill may be disguised under a different name, but it contains the same dangerous policies as the legislation that failed to advance out of the Senate earlier this summer. In fact, Graham-Cassidy goes even further in its attacks on Medicaid."

AARP:

"Overall, the Graham/Cassidy/Heller/Johnson bill would increase health care costs for older Americans with an age tax, decrease coverage, and undermine preexisting condition protections. In addition, this bill would jeopardize the ability of older Americans and people with disabilities to stay in their own homes as they age and threaten coverage for individuals in nursing homes."

Blue Cross Blue Shield Association:

"The [Graham-Cassidy] bill contains provisions that would allow states to waive key consumer protections, as well as undermine safeguards for those with pre-existing medical conditions. The legislation reduces funding for many states significantly and would increase uncertainty in the marketplace, making coverage more expensive and jeopardizing Americans' choice of health plans. Legislation must also ensure adequate funding for Medicaid to protect the most vulnerable."

Planned Parenthood:

"The Graham-Cassidy bill is a serious threat to the health care of millions of Americans. This bill is the worst Obamacare repeal bill yet: Millions of Planned Parenthood patients could lose their health care if the Graham-Cassidy bill were to pass — millions more would lose their coverage through Medicaid, and could lose essentials like maternity care and coverage for prescription drugs. Policy on women's health care should not be written by a

small group of male politicians behind closed doors. Enough is enough. With this latest version of Trumpcare, Americans will pay more and get less, but women will pay the biggest price of all.”

Kaiser Permanente:

“At Kaiser Permanente, we believe that changes to our nation’s health care laws should increase access to high-quality, affordable care and coverage for as many people as possible. The Graham-Cassidy bill does not meet any of those tests.

“The block grant proposal in the bill would erode coverage of needed medical services and pose major issues for state budgets. Repealing the individual mandate without alternative incentives for enrollment will lead to fewer people enrolled and higher premiums.”

America’s Health Insurance Plans:

“[The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal] would have real consequences on consumers and patients by further destabilizing the individual market; cutting Medicaid; pulling back on protections for preexisting conditions; not ending taxes on health insurance premiums and benefits; and potentially allowing government-controlled, single payer health care to grow.”

American Heart Association and 16 other patient and provider groups:

“Affordable, adequate care is vital to the patients we represent. This legislation fails to provide Americans with what they need to maintain their health. In fact, much of the proposal just repackages the problematic provisions of the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA), which we opposed. Fortunately, the BCRA was voted down by Congress earlier this year.”

Association of American Medical Colleges:

“During the long debate regarding health care reform, the nation’s medical schools and teaching hospitals have continually advocated for a number of key principles as fundamental cornerstones of any successful health care system. These principles include offering high-quality, affordable health insurance to all; preserving and fortifying the safety net through Medicaid and other policies; and encouraging innovation in the delivery system, among others.

“The current proposal does not meet these principles and will almost surely lead to dramatic increases in the number of uninsured patients nationwide and put important existing patient protections at risk. Additionally, a proposal like this—a complete overhaul of the health care system—should be fully and adequately examined by the Congressional Budget Office before it is brought to a vote.”

HIV Medicine Association:

Senators Cassidy and Graham’s proposal, like the ACA repeal proposals before it, would put the health and lives of tens of thousands of persons living with HIV at risk. We appeal once more to our senators to stop once and for all efforts to repeal the ACA and turn to improving rather than dismantling critical health coverage reforms.

The Alzheimer’s Association and Alzheimer’s Impact Movement:

“The proposed changes to Medicaid outlined in the Graham-Cassidy Amendment could have a drastic impact on this vulnerable population given that more than 1 in 4 seniors with Alzheimer’s and other dementias are currently on Medicaid. The Alzheimer’s Association and AIM are also alarmed by the potential impact of this legislation on

Americans living with pre-existing conditions, including the 200,000 Americans living with younger-onset Alzheimer's."

American Cancer Society:

"Our analysis indicates the bill could allow insurers to:
Charge cancer patients and survivors far higher rates to make coverage unaffordable
Eliminate coverage for cancer care in their health plans
Re-institute arbitrary caps on annual and lifetime coverage"

National Association of Medicaid Directors:

"Our members are committed to ensuring that the programs we operate improve health outcomes while also being fiscally responsible to state and federal taxpayers. In order to succeed, however, these efforts must be undertaken in a thoughtful, deliberative, and responsible way. We are concerned that this legislation would undermine these efforts in many states and fail to deliver on our collective goal of an improved health care system."

American Hospital Association:

"This proposal would erode key protections for patients and consumers and does nothing to stabilize the insurance market now or in the long term. In addition, the block grant to provide support for the expansion population expires in 2026, thereby eliminating coverage for millions of Americans. For these reasons, we oppose the Graham-Cassidy plan."

American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists:

"ACOG condemns the latest effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act by ignoring regular order and rushing the harmful Graham-Cassidy bill to a vote. This latest effort is the most dangerous bill to date, threatening to strip health care from millions of Americans and end Medicaid as we know it."

Children's Hospital Association:

"The nation's children's hospitals stand in strong opposition to the most recent legislative proposal introduced by Sens. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., Bill Cassidy, R-La., Dean Heller, R-Nev., and Ron Johnson, R-Wis. Their legislation would slash funding for Medicaid, the nation's largest health care program for children, by one-third, reducing access and coverage for more than 30 million children in the program."

Public Health Institute:

"The Graham-Cassidy proposal is just as bad as previous versions of ACA repeal—it would eliminate the Prevention and Public Health Fund, gut Medicaid funding, weaken current protections for people with pre-existing conditions and make meaningful coverage unaffordable for many."

The nation's Blue Cross Blue Shield plans and the powerful insurance lobby America's Health Insurance Plans on Wednesday joined mounting opposition from health-care providers, patient advocates and the largest senior lobby against the Republican-led Senate's latest effort to overhaul the Affordable Care Act.

Groups like the American Medical Association, which represents the nation's doctors, and the American Health Insurance Programs, representing big insurers like Anthem and Humana, along with patient advocacy groups, including the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association and American Diabetes Association have joined a growing list of organizations opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

The National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMMD):

The coalition representing the Medicaid directors from all 50 states, said in a statement that the GOP bill would place a massive burden on the states if passed. Graham-Cassidy would largely dismantle most of the Affordable Care Act and refashion the Medicaid program, which accounts for 25 percent of the average state budget, by shrinking the budget for federal health care programs and turning the rest of the money over to the states. Federal money devoted to Medicaid and private insurance would shrink by \$215 million between 2020 and 2026, according to an analysis by Avalere Health, and more than half of the cuts in legislation would come from Medicaid.

This Bill Will Force Me, My Family and Millions of Other Americans Into Bankruptcy. And Deny Us of Medical Treatment.

I am Retired, I am A Veteran. I am An American. My Zipcode is 08619.

Ron Estepp

[REDACTED]

Trenton, New Jersey 08619

[REDACTED]



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pamela Geismar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill - public comment

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

As a freelance graphic designer with my own studio, purchasing my own healthcare is time-consuming and incredibly expensive, and I continually need to reassess providers to try to keep it affordable.

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

Sincerely,

Pamela Geismar
Mount Kisco, NY 10549

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Rodriguez [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

I believe Health Care is a right and not a privilege, you should not have to be wealthy to have decent health care, the Graham/ Cassidy bill is not the solution to the health care situation.

It will make things worse for millions of Americans, Please do not pass this garbage legislation

Thank You,
Michael Rodriguez

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Zandt [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Robert Zandt
[REDACTED]
Durham, NC 27707
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Thornburg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy will hurt me and my family

Honorable Senators:

I am a survivor of metastatic ovarian cancer. The new bill will eliminate the medicaid funds I need to pay for my annual oncological exam and blood work. Without the funding, I could never pay for the tests myself, because I have a very limited income from Social Security. The work is not paid for in full by Medicare.

Millions of Americans will not be able to pay for medical care because they have pre-existing conditions.

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,

Linda R. Thornburg
Charlottesville, VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Cahill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Hearing Date: September 25, 2017

Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Hearing Date: September 25, 2017

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch, Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance

The Honorable Ron Wyden, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance

September 23, 2017

Dear Senator Hatch and Senator Wyden:

As a parent of a daughter with a pre-existing condition, I want to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill. This bill would end the Federal protections for persons with pre-existing conditions, would allow states to reintroduce annual and lifetime caps, and allow insurance companies to charge women more for their coverage. In addition, the essential benefits established by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would no longer be federally mandated. Prior to ACA, 75 percent of the individual insurance plans did not offer maternity care.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill also ends all cost sharing payments to low income Americans. My daughter works fulltime for a small business and purchases her health insurance through the ACA marketplace. She currently receives a cost sharing payment that comprises about 19% of the total cost of her monthly insurance premium. This is actually a smaller benefit than that she would receive if she worked for an employer who allowed her to pay for her health insurance premiums with pre-tax dollars. Why are the ACA cost sharing payments considered "bad" or "welfare" but not the tax subsidies being received by other Americans who pay for premiums with pre-tax dollars?

The nonpartisan experts who have reviewed the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill say that it will increase the cost of health insurance to individuals and tens of millions of Americans will lose coverage. This is not the direction our country should be moving in. These healthcare experts include: the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the National Association of Medicaid Directors, the Commonwealth Fund, the Kaiser Family Foundation, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Center for American Progress, AARP, Brookings, Avalere, the American Academy of Actuaries, and the American Enterprise Institute. In addition, at least two major health insurance providers, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Kaiser Permanente, the American Hospital Association and a number of physician associations have released statements opposing the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill.


Finally, I strongly object to how the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill is being rushed through with limited discussion, and little outside input. It is being brought up for a vote before a score is released by the Congressional Budget Office. Healthcare reform is too important for it to be treated in this manner. The decisions the Senate makes on healthcare will not only affect who receives coverage but will also affect who lives or dies.

My daughter currently can hold down a fulltime position and is self-supporting because her illness is kept in remission by the care she receives. The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill would make her care unaffordable resulting in a relapse of her illness and quite possibly a long painful death. Please don't tell me that the state high risk care pools for

persons with pre-existing conditions would take care of her. The U.S. has tried that model and it failed miserably because these pools were grossly underfunded. The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill reduces funding dramatically to most of the states; this does not bode well for high risk pools.

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Healthcare Bill.

Sincerely,
Anne Cahill


Fairfax, VA 22032

cc: Senator John Warner
Senator Tim Kaine

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Support for Continuing the Affordable Health Care Act

Dear Senators,

Please find ways to strengthen the current system, not repeal it. The latter is going backwards and smacks of partisanship. We need to put the country first--ahead of politics. The current effort to repeal and replace Obamacare has lost touch with the reality of what will happen to millions of Americans.

Matthew

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am worried because I am a woman that my reproductive rights will not be honored. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Veronica
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Vote no on the Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill. Americans want a single payer plan. Start working on that or making the ACA better.

Stop the insanity of taking away or diminishing the care of millions of Americans.

I am 57 years old, until a few months ago I purchased my Healthcare thru the company I worked for for over 30 years. Once Cobra is done I will need to purchase affordable good insurance.

Theresa Keynton
[REDACTED]
Sisters, Oregon 97759

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary McMillan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham- Cassidy Hearing September 25, 2017

My husband and I rely on quality affordable health care. Each one of us has pre-existing conditions - I have had breast cancer; my husband has had cardiovascular bypass surgery. Because of these pre-existing conditions, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see bipartisan cooperative Congressional efforts to amend and better the Affordable Care Act, NOT repeal and replace with one sided "solutions".

Mary McMillan
[REDACTED]
Raleigh, NC 27614

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanine Dargis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy ACA Replacement

To whom it may concern,

As a recipient of the Affordable Care Act, I am horrified that the health coverage that I have come to rely upon is under seige, again. I rely on quality, affordable healthcare through the ACA. Not just for my current health but for the peace of mind that I'm covered in the event of a future sickness or accident. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham/Cassidy bill.

I work remotely for a very small company, which makes receiving employer-sponsored health coverage impossible. I feel very lucky to be able to rely on the ACA for coverage, and won't give it up without a fight. I am a relatively healthy person, but I don't and cannot know if that will remain so in the future. I, like so many Americans, RELY on the Affordable Care Act every day.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. In fact, I am in full support of a single-payer healthcare program, should that come down the legislative pipeline. It's time the United States got in line with the rest of the world in believing that healthcare is a RIGHT, not a privilege.

Thank you.

Jeanine Dargis, Nutley NJ 07110

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Sweeney [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Our most vulnerable.

Please do not vote yes on the latest Repeal and Replace proposal, the health of our most vulnerable citizens will be at risk.
Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have family from the UK and I have seen universal healthcare work in other countries. It is appalling that our wealthy country does not have something similar, and is trying to cut what little we do have. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Colette Watt

Durham, NC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Roy <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to ask that you please OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy Bill now before your committee. This legislation, which would eliminate medicaid as a federal entitlement, would be devastating for myself and many families I know.

My child has Down syndrome and relies on medicaid funds for critical support.

Thank you,
Jennifer Roy
[REDACTED]
Waltham, MA 02451

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Hopkins [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept 25

I am very concerned that the Graham-Cassidy bill could be brought to the floor without assessment of impacts by the Congressional Budget Office.

It is time to replace the partisan approach to governing with a bi-partisan effort on revision of the ACA.

Margaret Hopkins

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Ziegler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

1) The bill requires each state to come up with a healthcare plan in two years. It took Massachusetts four years to develop RomneyCare. Under the ACA, it took four years to develop the healthcare.gov marketplace and even then the rollout was not smooth. The Congressional Republicans have had SEVEN years to come up with a plan, and the only thing they can devise is to pass the problem on to the states. A two year deadline is a recipe for disaster.

2) 2.4 million men and women visit Planned Parenthood for healthcare services each year, including more than 295,000 Pap tests, more than 320,000 breast exams, and more than 4.2 million tests and treatments for sexually transmitted infections, (including more than 650,000 HIV tests). Cutting Medicaid funding to PP would leave those people without a trusted healthcare provider.

3) On a personal note: the Graham-Cassidy bill reportedly allows children to remain on their parents' insurance plan until age 26. My 18 year old daughter just left for college in another state. Even as things stand now, her health insurance caused a bit of a headache: we had to research whether the umbrella group that our local university-medical-school/hospital-system-issued insurance belongs to also encompassed the local university-medical-school/hospital-system that her college is affiliated with. (Luckily it did.) When all 50 states have 50 different requirements for insurance coverage, will keeping out-of-state students on their parents' plans be even possible? What will it mean for individuals with employer-based insurance who work in one state but live in another? As a side note, weren't Republican leaders urging that insurance products be purchaseable across state lines in order to increase market competition and lower prices? Surely having individual state requirements for insurance coverage makes this idea all but impossible.

4) Finally, one of the items that increases the cost of healthcare is bureaucracy. One of the arguments in favor of a universal health care system is it cuts out the administrative costs. One analysis reports, "In Massachusetts alone, Blue Cross/Blue Shield employs 6,682 workers to cover 2.7 million subscribers. This is more people than work in all of Canada's provincial health care plans, which cover over 25 million people." [Government is Good web project, <http://governmentisgood.com/articles.php?aid=20&p=3>] A system that is composed of 50 state-based systems, each with different demands of the insurance industry is a system that will be overloaded with bureaucracy. With more complexity, we can expect higher costs from our insurance companies.

Robin Ziegler

15217
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lise Nau [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Graham-Cassidy

If improvements are needed in the ACA, both parties need to work together to make them, in a reasonable and well-considered time frame. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, which would do serious harm to millions of Americans. It represents sheer political gaming and bears no relationship to legislating for the well-being of citizens.

I have personal 14 years experience with having to exist without health insurance. Later I was in the hospital for 19 days and would have lost my house, had I not had coverage at that time.

Americans need healthcare security to make our country's financial and social engines stable. Not this infuriating roller-coaster of political gamesmanship.

We are paying attention. Don't screw this up.

Sincerely,
Lise Nau
Hyattsville, MD

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Keefe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I reject and oppose the current healthcare bill proposed in the Senate. My husband has only stayed alive because of the ACA. He has a heart condition and no insurance carrier would pick him up because of it. And he has no employer insurance. It is working. Just fix it to make it better ! Let's focus on a bipartisan bill.

Thank you for listening!
Liz Giletto
Margaretville, NY 12455

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. This is not a health care bill. This is a "stick-it-to-poor-people bill. No one wants this bill: no insurance company, no medical association, certainly no person with a disability, like my son.

Please vote NO!

L. Dean Sauers

[REDACTED]
New London WI 54961

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Jahnke <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

NO! Vote no to Graham Cassidy and protect people like my son who depends on medicaid waiver services that allow him to live in his community instead of living in an institution.

John Jahnke
Green Bay WI 54303

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DSJ MS [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Don't dismantle the ACA

Re-sending corrected comments:

- >
- > I am a voter from Washington State. I'm female, over 50, and have a developmentally disabled niece who need will need complex medical care for the rest of her life. I also come from a state that will be one of the biggest revenue losers if Medicaid is transitioned to a block grant program. Half of our Medicaid recipients are children. Please keep Obamacare and work transparently and carefully to make minor revisions to address specific issues. Please reject sweeping, harmful, and economically destabilizing rollbacks of core elements of the ACA.
- >
- > Best regards,
- > Megan Smith
- > [REDACTED] et
- > Seattle, WA 98199
- >
- > Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carla Jablonski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care/ACA vote

FROM THE ENTIRE MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT TO REPUBLICANS:
THESE ARE THE EXPERTS IN THE FIELD. LISTEN TO THEM!!!! Since pleas and evidence from the actual human beings who will suffer -- and possibly die -- because of this horrible bill fall on your deaf ears, perhaps professional organizations will make the case that will finally get you to pay attention.

The following statement was jointly released on September 23, 2017 by the American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association regarding the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson legislation.

We represent the nation's doctors, hospitals, and health plans. Collectively, our organizations include hundreds of thousands individual physicians, thousands of hospitals, and hundreds of health plans that serve tens of millions of American patients, consumers, and employers every day across the United States.

While we sometimes disagree on important issues in health care, we are in total agreement that Americans deserve a stable healthcare market that provides access to high-quality care and affordable coverage for all. The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill does not move us closer to that goal. The Senate should reject it.

We agree that the bill will cause patients and consumers to lose important protections, as well as undermine safeguards for those with pre-existing conditions. Without these guaranteed protections, people with significant medical conditions can be charged much higher premiums and some may not be able to buy coverage at all.

We agree that the bill will result in dramatic cuts to Medicaid and a funding cliff in the future, fundamentally changing the way that states provide coverage for some of our most vulnerable citizens. This means that millions of patients will lose their coverage and go without much-needed care.

We agree that the individual insurance market will be drastically weakened, making coverage more expensive and jeopardizing Americans' choice of health plans. By not providing all states with sufficient funds to support working families who need help buying coverage, millions will go without it.

We agree that the bill's current implementation timelines are not workable. State and industry leaders will need to completely transform their individual insurance markets and Medicaid programs in little more than a year – an impossible task.

Health care is too important to get wrong. Let's take the time to get it right. Let's agree to find real, bipartisan solutions that make health care work for every American

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarika Chawla [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill comments

Tomorrow, my 45-year-old husband is going in for surgery to get an implantable cardioverter defibrillator/pacemaker put into his chest. He was diagnosed two months ago with a genetic condition that's causing his heart wall to thicken, and hopefully this device will help him avoid his father's fate of dropping dead on the patio at age 56. (His grandfather died at 39, presumably of the same condition.)

With two small kids and a long commute each day, I don't let myself have time to be terrified of a future without my husband. What I am is grateful that even though we don't qualify for any subsidies, we're able to get quality insurance with Kaiser Permanente that covers my husband and both kids. It's possible I could have gotten something cheaper, but knowing my husband's fear of doctors, I purposely kept Kaiser even in leaner times because their system makes it easy to make appointments, schedule followups and they practice preventative care. My husband went to see his doctor for indigestion and came out with a heart disease diagnosis.

We live in a nice home in one of the most expensive cities in America. My parents are among the 1 percent. I've lived a life of privilege and am continuously grateful that, even as the child of immigrants, I'm in a system that's set up to support and reward my hard work. Because of that my husband will most likely live a longer life than his father was able to.

Most Americans haven't had the same opportunities that I've had, and with legislation like the Graham-Cassidy Bill, their access to the same quality healthcare that my family has would be ripped away from them. Please stop this travesty from happening and listen to the American people. We don't want this bill, we want to improve the Affordable Health Care Act and ensure that everyone in this country has the right to live long and healthy lives. Because you never know when your world will turn upside down.

Sarika Chawla
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jean Terranova [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Letter in opposition to the Graham-Casey bill
Attachments: SFC Template Letter Final 9-21-17.docx

Thank you for considering Community Servings' letter in opposition to the Graham-Casey bill. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.
Best,



Jean Terranova
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
[REDACTED]
[Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Instagram](#)



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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Monica Evon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

I
rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have not been able to afford healthcare for the past 2 years because of my financial situation. I am grateful that Medical has been available to me for routine wellness checkups, mammograms, etc. I have had the security of knowing that if I did need medical care, it was available to me. A repeal of the Affordable Care Act would be devastating for me personally. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Monica Evon
San Diego, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Berg [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing 9/25/17

Please consider my testimony for your hearing today:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a freelance dance artist working in NYC. I am lucky to share insurance with my husband through his job, which offers healthcare plans through the ACA. Without access to affordable healthcare I would not have insurance at all! This could be a deadly situation as I rely on my body and health for my livelihood.

In my early twenties living in Arizona, I was denied health coverage from Blue Cross Blue Shield because of ONE abnormal pap-smear. I didn't have cancer, nor was I diagnosed with any condition based on the results of that one abnormal pap-smear. Never had an abnormal one since that day. But NOT getting coverage could mean that in the future I could develop a serious condition because of a lack of access to preventative care. Care that should be accessible to all women. What if I did have a life threatening condition? It is terrifying to think about trying to find care, when I couldn't even get basic coverage after having one abnormal pap-smear - a common occurrence for women at some point in their adult lives.

As a healthy person, I mostly use my insurance access for preventative care. I have no problem supporting a system that pools money in order to help sick and high risk individuals as we all benefit from having healthy neighbors. I strongly believe that we should value the health of those we know AND those we don't. That is the America I want to live in. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Laurie Berg

Brooklyn, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Pagan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC Bill

Dear Senators,

I am contacting you to express my extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy "health care" bill. Many of your constituents, myself and my children included, through no fault of our own, have pre-existing conditions. Prior to the ACA, these conditions (back surgery 20 years ago, migraine & asthma) meant insurance companies charged very high premiums with high deductibles, the cost of which took a disproportionately large percentage of my single parent income.

With the ACA, I have been able to obtain insurance at a more affordable rate, thereby enabling me to keep my now adult children on my policy as they pursue their university educations. From the information provided on the Graham-Cassidy bill, rates look set to rise drastically since provisions prohibiting discrimination against pre-existing conditions are eliminated & are dependent waivers being sought by individual states.

Also, I find it highly irregular that your particular committee is the one being utilized to "review" the GC bill. A healthcare bill that truly benefits and improves the situation of the American people should be able to stand up to the regular scrutiny and review process of Congress. This instance suggests a drive to meet an internal deadline with an extremely faulty piece of legislation in order for some to be able to claim a legislative "success". Moreover, last night's last-minute sweeteners to particular states reek of bribery and pandering in an attempt to secure select senators' votes.

Please show concern for the welfare of the American people and the integrity of well-established Senate procedures by NOT supporting this last ditch attempt at a healthcare bill which does not serve those it is supposed to benefit.

Thank you very much for your time and serious attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Pagan
Sarasota, FL

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Divine [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I do NOT support this bill.

This issue is complicated and requires due process and bipartisan cooperation.

Vote no!

No rushing this through!!

Donna Divine
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dusek, Robin C. [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 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.

This bill will cost millions of people their lives and nothing this complex should be done with this much rush and secrecy. Do your job – that isn't being reelected, that is serving those people whose lives depend on you to do your job.

Robin Dusek
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Crystal Nielsen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Graham Cassidy bill will have a seriously negative impact on the American people. Taking healthcare away from tens of millions of Americans in order to gain political points is inhumane, unChristian, and unAmerican.

As a woman with a pre-existing condition, this bill impacts me personally. I will not be able to afford healthcare under Graham Cassidy.

As a friend, daughter, cousin, and godmother, this bill affects me personally by taking healthcare away from the people I care about.

I sincerely hope that for the good of America, this bill will be rejected, and efforts can instead be focused on making the ACA better.

Sincerely,
Crystal Nielsen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Kraar [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 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
Jennifer Kraar
[REDACTED] t.
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

US Senate Finance Committee,
Please consider my opinion.

Trumpcare is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote "yes" on Trumpcare will be remembered in the next election and history books as anti-American. The medical profession is against it as are the majority of the young citizens in this country.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Kraar

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Vanderwert [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please do NOT roll back the protections so many of our brothers and sisters need to be healthy. This bill will only make things worse and when that happens your political prospects will also be worse. Use your common sense, please.

Mary Vanderwert
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

For more tips, fun facts, and photos

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Lattimore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family and the patients and families I serve rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The need for coverage of pre-existing conditions, disabilities, and affordability, is evident in the people with rare life-long disorders that are straddled with medical debt and face insurmountable difficulties in obtaining insurance for complicated medical needs. Healthcare should be a right, not a privilege. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Susan Lattimore
Portland, OR

Susan Lattimore, RN
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathie DeKalb [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

> Dear Finance Committee,

>

> I am writing on behalf of myself, my husband and family members.. We are very concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing. The date of the hearing is September 25, 2017. Our full names are Kathleen and Francis DeKalb and we reside at 707 W End Road, Little Falls, NY 13365

> We do not want the Graham/Cassidy bill to pass. Clearly the motive behind it is not to positively reform or improve health care coverage of people that truly need those services, but to free up funds for corporations and wealthy people that don't need them. We know that many of our representatives are given funds for their campaigns from insurance industries. Greed, not need, is what is driving these efforts.

>

> If the well being of the people that these proposed changes were at the forefront, there would be no urgency to get it done this week because bipartisan support would be there for a " humane" bill to consider.

>

> As retired teachers, we experienced first hand how the Affordable Healthcare Act assisted individuals (children) who would otherwise not have healthcare. I have family members who also currently benefit from the ACA. This is personal...not political.

>

> Sincerely,
> Kathleen and Francis DeKalb

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Straight, Celeste [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill 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.

Please, I urge you to take that opportunity and join me in opposing Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,
Celeste Straight, MD

Celeste Straight, MD
[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, transmission, re-transmission, 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: stuart nolan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Downvote Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story, like many others is that of affordability and a sense of taking care of the larger community of folks here in our country who may be less fortunate or experience hardships unknown to my family. The ACA is on the right track in this regard. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Stuart Nolan

Robert, Louisiana

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Lyon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Please vote no on this bill which is the worst attempt yet to replace the ACA. It will hurt children with special needs, hurt seniors, make millions without insurance, and will overwhelm hospital emergency rooms for which they are not equipped and this bill will just increase hospital costs that everyone will end up paying for.

Thank you,

Terry Lyon

[REDACTED]
Vinton, VA 24179

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: T Goodeve [redacted] <[redacted]@[redacted].com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO toGraham Cassidy bill

No to Graham Cassidy
No to Graham CassidyNo to Graham Cassidy
No to Graham Cassidy
No to Graham Cassidy
No to Graham Cassidy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Ladman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: "No" to Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Committee,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a recovering anorexic, and this new bill would prevent me from being covered affordably. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cathy Ladman
Santa Monica
CA

Sent from this thing I can't stop looking at.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ben Goldman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson

As a resident of the District of Columbia, I have no Senator to represent my voice with a vote on this bill, whether in committee or on the floor. I therefore ask this committee to consider the following:

1. ACA is not "broken" or a "disaster." To predicate the urgent passage of such a bill upon these pretenses is dishonest and damaging.
2. The current bill *will* result in the unnecessary loss of millions of lives.
3. Transparently shifting funds to states that are home to swing votes in the full Senate will not go unnoticed, or unpunished.

As Senator McCain and others have urged, please return to regular order. Take up Senator Sanders' Medicare for All bill and have a full debate; place the health of all Americans above the votes of a few and the wealth of the fewer.

Ben Goldman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Danyelle Landry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO ON G/C

This is ridiculous that this bill is being pushed through without due process and debate. The only reason is the GOPs allowance was cut off by the Koch Bros... money/party over country/people

Sincerely

Danyelle- concerned US citizen under this Trump regime that needs to be stopped. PS Have some balls to impeach him for in inability to lead/govern

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kimberly Kendall [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday Sept. 25, 2017

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is this: Prior to the ACA, I was between jobs and not covered by an employer provided health insurance plan. During this time I applied for health insurance on the individual market and was denied because I have a pre-existing condition. By the way, my pre-existing condition is the fact that I have uterine fibroids. A condition that is overwhelmingly benign and that OVER half of women have by their 40's.

My fear is that with this bill, the next time I do not have an employer provided health insurance plan, I will not qualify to purchase one on my own.

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

Sincerely,

Kimberly Kendall

[REDACTED]
Cotati, CA 94931

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Scholz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:55 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 have a 20 year old daughter with epilepsy, and I am concerned how the bill would impact her access to medical care and insurance as she gets older. Although she will work, her intellectual disability caused by seizures will limit that work to low-wage positions that rarely offer insurance. In addition to concerns about individuals with **pre existing conditions**, I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

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.

It effectively ends Medicaid expansion. 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. Home-and-community based services, which are critical to people with disabilities, would be at risk.

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.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,
Ann Scholz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brenda Nuckton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

There has been a great deal of talk the last few days about patriotism.

A truly patriotic and democratic government allows public scrutiny of bills, particularly bills that will impact so many citizens.

Pushing through a bill without time for analysis of actual impact and time for amendments and debate is the antithesis of democratic and patriotic process.

What we do know about the bill shows devastating health and financial impacts for vast numbers of American citizens.

Please vote against this bill.

Brenda Nuckton
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Riley Haft [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is Anti-Entrepreneur

Dear Senators:

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is anti-entrepreneur.

Before the Affordable Care Act, my self-employed friend wanted to move her business to another state for greater opportunity. Because of a brief, past bout with very mild skin cancer - caught soon and treated in a day - she was uninsurable in that state, so she stayed put. Until the ACA, that is, when she made the move, and her business flourished.

Make no mistake, the high premiums for pre-existing conditions allowed by the Graham-Cassidy proposal would have had the same effect.

In addition to restricting interstate moves, this proposal would deter aspiring entrepreneurs in many states from starting small businesses, as those with pre-existing conditions will again be trapped in jobs that include health insurance, as they were before the ACA.

Please protect Americans who want to build our economy through their initiative and ingenuity by rejecting Graham-Cassidy and taking the time to create a thoughtful health-care bill that gives everyone an equal shot at success.

Thank you.

Susan Riley Hart
[REDACTED]
Arlington, MA 02474

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Melrose [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy - NO

My patients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The majority of my very needy patients here in the Bronx, NY will suffer with a repeal of the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Mark Melrose, DO
[REDACTED]
Bronx. NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Fugate <anna.fugate@downs.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday Sept. 25, 2017

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am an independent contractor working in the film industry, therefore self-employed. My husband works at a very small company that is not required to provide health insurance. I do belong to a union, which usually would provide health insurance, but the union projects that have filmed in my area this year has not been sufficient to cover the minimum number of hours required to qualify for healthcare. The Affordable Care Act has been immensely beneficial to my husband and I. When he suffered a compression fracture in his spine and was in constant pain, he was able to see a doctor, get pain medication, have tests run, and attend 6 weeks of physical therapy. Without the ACA, we would not have been able to afford his physical therapy, let alone the tests they administered before giving a reliable diagnosis. I've had several moments of gratitude for the ACA myself. When I started suffering facial spasms and was terrified of the innumerable possibilities for what could be causing them, I remember thinking "Thank God I at least have health insurance!". I was able to see an amazing doctor covered by my insurance and had the problem diagnosed and resolved within weeks! Without health insurance, I might have been so focused on the out-of-pocket cost of my healthcare that I wouldn't have gone to see a doctor.

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

Sincerely,

Anna Fugate-Downs

[REDACTED]
Leander, TX 78641

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marie Enderle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save Us- Reject Graham-Cassidy

Finance Committee,

Senators,

As you well know, Trumpcare, like a zombie, refuses to die. The whole of America is depending on you to literally save our lives. It is unconscionable that kicking 32 million off of healthcare is even being considered. 32. Million. It goes after women, children, the elderly, the disabled and the poor. Who doesn't it go after? Wealthy white men. It's both disheartening and infuriating that I and so many others have to fight so hard for basic human rights, for basic American rights.

To add insult to literal injury and illness, this bill is being shoved down our throats at break-neck speed with no thought to process and to quote Senator McCain, "regular order." I am horrified by the blatant and willful erosion of the Constitution and disregard for democracy.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. 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 blows my mind that I have to ask you this, but: Please. Save our lives, save the lives of our children, of our parents, of those we love who are most vulnerable. Please. Prove to the American people that you actually give a damn about what happens to us. Show us our cynicism regarding Congress is misplaced. And remember: you work for us, not whoever is funding this travesty. Do your jobs.

Thank you.

Best,
Marie Enderle

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle McMacken [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Physician opposed to Graham-Cassidy bill

I am a practicing internal medicine physician whose patients rely on high-quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The vast majority of my patients have pre-existing conditions and a substantial number rely on Medicaid for their basic healthcare needs. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle McMacken, MD
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Manjula Kamaraju [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:49 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.

Manjula Kamaraju
Sunnyvale CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Moore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public comment on Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern-

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill, and any attempt to roll back the Affordable Care Act. My mother's partner died from complications from diabetes several years ago, before passage of this life-saving legislation. As a writer and journalist, he was underemployed, and unable to afford health insurance. Had the ACA been law while he was still alive, he would have been able to access basic care for his diabetes, and I'm sure he would still be with us today. We cannot return to the days when underemployed people with pre-existing conditions have no healthcare options available to them.

The efforts to repeal and replace the ACA are cruel and unconscionable. They are political posturing, not real attempts to solve the problems of ACA and help Americans.

Elizabeth Moore

[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19146-1825

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claire Bronson Gmail [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is that I'm an actor and a small business owner who's married to an actor and a small business owner....so every penny is accounted for. We cannot do what we do without affordable healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Claire Bronson
Decatur, Georgia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marge Platt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I'm writing to voice my concerns over this bill. As an American with family members who have health issues, and as a person why things healthcare shouldn't end with a cap at birth, or be refused because you're a woman who was raped, please stop this bill! Its cruel, and the new version is worse than the first one .

Sincerely, Marge Platt
Wallingford, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Lorge [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy repeal bill

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband and I have worked hard "to do the right thing". We both have bachelors degree, are active members in our community and church, and sustain a strong middle-class family that includes our three little boys. Four and a half years ago our journey into the medically complex world began as our youngest son was diagnosed with a heart defect at his 20 week ultrasound. His first pre-existing condition.

Since that day our Gabriel has had two open heart surgeries with at least one more expected, he has added other diagnoses that we know will follow him his whole life, including a genetic syndrome called Rubinstein-Taybi Syndrome, a tracheotomy was placed to help his breathing, and he has spent a total of about 8months of his four years inpatient at our local Children's Hospital.

Secondary to our primary insurance my son has benefited from Medicaid through our state's Katie Beckett Waiver. This lifestyle brings many doctors appointments, medications, therapies, and frankly many bills. Yes, our son is our responsibility. We work very hard to utilize only what we need. That includes me sleeping on my son's floor for the past three years so we don't have to hire a nurse to care for him in the night. However, our health care system is full of outrageous costs and families like mine are caught in the middle. I simply don't know how we could meet our son's health care needs without his waiver supports.

In short, my son's Medicaid waiver allows for my son to be home with us versus an institution. It helps him to be an active member of our home, his school, church, and community. It allows for my family to not fall into financial ruin in order for the health care companies to expand their profits. It gives my son a future.

Therefore, we are opposed to any conditions that allow for insurance denial due to pre-existing conditions as well as life-time caps. It's hard not to take such provisions in the current Graham-Cassidy health care repeal bill as an attack on families like mine. We did the right thing by continuing on with our pregnancy over four years ago. My son's life is just as valuable now as it was then. He deserves the opportunity to grow and to give back to his community just as it has helped him.

Katie Lorge

[REDACTED]
Greenville, Wi 54942

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Domino [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote no on Graham Cassidy bill

Sirs,

Please vote no on the Graham Cassidy bill, because it will lower access to health care for poor people, allow insurance companies to deny coverage for pre-existing conditions and will not lower premiums for the middle class.

Sincerely,

Donna Domino

US citizen & California voter

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn Karlon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO!

I have 2 young adults in my home....one with Cerebral Palsy..... one with a rare disease. It is challenging enough to help them in their lives without having the constant fear of the unknown in medical help. PLEASE remind yourself that there are SO many in the same predicaments who rely on insurance, medicare ... and other NEEDED affordable programs to keep them in good health.... or even more important... TO LIVE. thank you.

Dawn at [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew Dombrosky [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to register my opposition regarding the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill. The bill would make healthcare in America worse in virtually every aspect. It cannot answer the simple question: how would it make life better for Americans? It doesn't. It would cause higher premiums, eliminate protections for those with preexisting conditions, bring back lifetime caps on benefits, and results in many millions of people losing Medicaid coverage. I have not heard one positive thing about this bill. Congress should be working on a bipartisan solution to healthcare, not wasting time with the G-C morass. Please pull this bill.

Matthew Dombrosky
Altoona, Pennsylvani

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Evans [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy HealthCare Bill: Stop it now

Hello,

Like every other American, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I am begging you to halt the Graham-Cassidy bill. There has been no greater relief in my life than that essential benefits and pre-existing conditions have guaranteed, no questions asked equal coverage under the current ACA. And, there is great comfort in knowing that our country, and our government, is taking care of the most vulnerable amongst us through the Medicaid program. I cannot imagine why anyone would want to take away this simple peace of mind that allows people to pursue their lives in the most productive way possible.

Without the assurances that were finally gained under the ACA, people will suffer, be unable to contribute to society, and be further isolated in illness. Every single one of you, and every single member of your family, of your towns, and your States are no more than 1 minute away from a pre-existing condition. Why should we fear being even more devastated by financial ruin than we are about a diagnosis or accident????

The entire medical community agrees as indicated in the September 23 joint statement: "While we sometimes disagree on important issues in health care, we are in total agreement that Americans deserve a stable healthcare market that provides access to high-quality care and affordable coverage for all. The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill does not move us closer to that goal. The Senate should reject it. "

Please reject this bill and return to regular order. Give us a bipartisan, careful, deliberative, and open process for this most important national (not State) issue. This deserves time and care and should not be rammed through for some cheap political "win," or worse yet to appease donors at the cost of the well being and security of all Americans.

Reject this bill.

Laurie Evans
Troy, Michigan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janna Fischer [mailto:janna.fischer@colorado.gov]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

To Whom It May Concern:

My niece relies on quality, affordable healthcare. She was born with a rare, progressive genetic disorder that requires lifelong care. Her parents--my brother and sister-in-law---are taxpayers who both have full-time jobs and health insurance. My niece needs Medicaid to fill the gaps in her care that the private insurance will not. And she has likely already blown through any lifetime limit at the tender age of 3. She didn't ask to be born. She didn't ask to have a disability. You want to bankrupt my family and kill my niece because you are concerned about your precious careers and campaigns.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like you to grow up, stop posturing, and try to work on a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Janna Fischer
Denver, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Caroline Hughes [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I am just one of many Americans that does not sleep worry about what decisions will be made that can cost my child her life. She has Juvenile or type I diabetes and was diagnosed with this autoimmune disease at age 11. My husband is self employed and we have always purchased individual insurance plans. Prior to the ACA, our insurance had risen to nearly 40k a year. Now we may not even have a plan to purchase! According to Anthem they are pulling out of the individual market "due to the uncertainty". My daughter is healthy and successful at age 26. She about to finish graduate school at Vanderbilt (certified nurse fractionner Pediatrics). She is healthy thanks to diligent work on her part and new technological advances (such as those being made in the artificial pancreas trials) in the area of diabetes. These come at a huge cost even with insurance but they save lives! Putting a cap on pre existing conditions would mean that patients will no longer be able to choose the life saving care. Our out of pocket expenses are huge and we have a long way to go to make these advances available to every adult and child with diabetes. Graham Cassidy may turn the clock back 30 years and will be a death sentence to many. No state should have the choice to put a cap on or exclude people with pre existing conditions! An insulin pump is \$7,000 and a continuous glucose monitor is \$1000. The supplies required along with insulin to use these run about \$5000 every 3 months. After 15 years with diabetes, my daughter has never been to the hospital or had a diabetic emergency. She has no diabetic complications. Her eyesight is great, kidneys normal, she has all of her limbs and toes and a healthy heart. She can live a healthy life with diabetes! Please do not make decisions that make this an unreachable goal for her!

I will pray today that each of you will consider all Americans as you vote on our lives.

Caroline Hughes
Richmond, Va

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Longoria [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Four of my five immediate family members have chronic conditions that require long-term monitoring and treatment by medical professionals. The Graham-Cassidy bill strips away protections for pre-existing conditions and would potentially make my family's health care decisions more expensive and difficult. For this reason, and for its extreme and immoral cuts to health care for low-income and disabled Americans and its gutting of support for women's health care, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This rushed partisan effort requiring a vote before the Congressional Budget Office can fully assess its economic consequences is bad policy making. Instead, I support a measured, bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Patricia Longoria
[REDACTED]
Ithaca, NY 14850

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Sussman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA comment

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My father suffers from Type 2 Diabetes and Chronic lymphocytic leukemia, and requires hemodialysis for poor kidney function. He would not be able to afford proper treatment without MassHealth. 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 Sussman
Brooklyn, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Langley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid

My son was born with multiple disabilities, including failing hearing test and Prune Belly Syndrome. At eight months he developed seizures which progressed into Lennox Gastaut Seizure Disorder and at 2.5 years of age Autism, developmental delay, hearing impaired, mild cerebral palsy.

Medicaid had been a God send for our son, who is now 20 years old. He is on four (4) different seizure medicines, ADHD medicine and braces from foot to knee on both legs.

I had to quit my job over 8 years ago because he was "too much maintenance" to care for all day.

His medicines alone cost more than I could begin to afford. To lose Medicaid would be extremely detrimental to my son--even to the point of life-threatening!

I appeal to you as a mother, full-time caregiver and advocate for my son that you NOT cut or otherwise diminish Medicaid for individuals with disabilities.

Thank you,
Ann Langley
Mother/Caregiver/ Advocate

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terri Lancaster [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Terri Lancaster
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. As a citizen, and a professional working in a rural community mental health center, 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. Mental health is intricately connected to physical health.

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. Our patients are able to avoid homelessness, or needless incarceration with the funding available for treatment through Medicaid.

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. It hurts our most vulnerable citizens.

Sincerely,
Terri Lancaster

[REDACTED]
Thurmont, MD 21788
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Privitera [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: vote No, Please

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.

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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,

Cindy Privitera, CPSP

[REDACTED] list
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[REDACTED] org
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom Patterson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:51 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.

Thomas Patterson
Baltimore MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Darryl Weber [redacted]@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please keep the Affordable Care Act

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with health care is that prior to the ACA, my husband and I, who are self employed, would not be accepted for healthcare coverage due to minor preexisting conditions such as knee pain that may or may not have been arthritis. I no longer have knee issues, but if the ACA did not exist, we would still not have health coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Darryl Weber
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Norine Dowrkin-McDaniel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I am writing to let you know of my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill, which will harm millions merely to fill partisan campaign promises, and not because the bill is sensible, wise, or just. Furthermore, the Senate has failed to give the American public time to adequately evaluate the bill, including receiving information from the CBO.

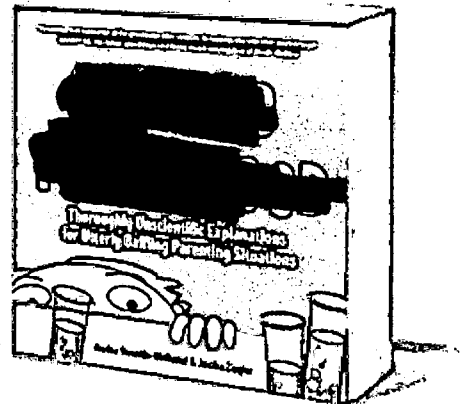
Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Warmly,

[REDACTED] erse

“The perfect field manual for all the parents out there who can do nothing else with their day but laugh.” - Dr. Oz

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kevin Jennings <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham cassidy

i struggle with three pre-existing conditions: a heart attack left me with serious heart damage, i have clinical depression, and i have esophageal acid reflux. I am lucky that i have an employer who provides me with health care but even then paying for all my medications is a struggle and, should i change jobs, i am nervous that -- under your proposed new law -- i would be denied coverage due to these pre-existing conditions. Please don't mess with my health insurance.

Kevin Jennings
[REDACTED]
Southbury CT 06488

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DAVID ROSS [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:50 AM
To: gchcomments

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill that would dump America's health care bill into the laps of the states. This is literally passing the buck to the states, leaving them to sort through the broken pieces of our health care system. Graham-Cassidy will cost our state \$3.5 billion in lost federal revenues over a six year period beginning in 2020. Our Medicaid program will have to be significantly cut back, since we were an expansion state under the ACA. Poor people should not be targeted in any health care reform. "Revise and Restore" the Affordable Care Act!

Thank you,

David Ross [REDACTED] MA 02129

David Ross
Boston Money Management Program Manager
Ethos

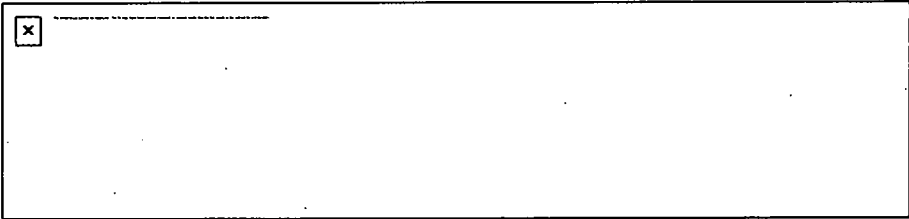
[REDACTED] | Jamaica Plain, MA 02130-2672

[REDACTED] BMMP Dedicated Voice Mail [REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Webber [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No

I urge every Senator to vote No on the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Millions of Americans will lose coverage because states are not required to use block grants responsibly. We must protect our most vulnerable, such as the elderly, disabled, and those with pre-existing conditions. The Bill's provisions regarding women's health are bordering on barbaric. Legislation that penalizes a citizen for being female does not represent the America I know. Any bill that has the potential to harm a nation's citizens like this should not pass.

Please look at Universal Healthcare to ensure basic coverage for all Americans.

Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Lightner [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

As an employee of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, I see every day the importance of adequate Medicaid coverage to keeping our most vital resource, our children, healthy.

The current iteration of the Graham-Cassidy Bill, including its new concessions for Main and Alaska, is simply bad policy on many, many levels.

I hope that our legislators will find a way to work together to effectively reform the ACA, but this bill is not the answer.

Sincerely,
Linda Lightner
Glen Mills, PA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristen Warms [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Senate Finance Committee Hearing on Graham-Cassidy

September 25, 2017

Comments for the Hearing to Consider the
Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

From:

Kristen Warms
[REDACTED]

Austin, TX 78723

I am writing to implore this committee, and members of the Senate at large, to halt movement on the Graham-Cassidy Act—go back to the drawing board and engage across the aisle to find a solution that doesn't disenfranchise millions of Americans from their access to healthcare.

I write this testimony because this bill—if made law—will directly and detrimentally affect my family and me personally in the following ways:

1. Cutting funding to Medicaid by moving funding to inadequate block grant structure would leave states ill-equipped to respond to recessions, natural disasters, and public health crisis, such as the damage/devastation we've experienced here in Texas due to Hurricane Harvey.
2. Not only that, but it does nothing to guarantee that states provide adequate funding to support families and children in need. I have personally experienced what cuts in Medicaid funding can and does to a family. We are fortunate to have private insurance through our employers. However, my son requires weekly speech therapy support to help him overcome/manage some developmental delays. The clinic he goes to has lost staff, cut its hours, and cut its services because the State of Texas—which refused to expand Medicaid in 2015—has stopped providing adequate funding to providers of speech, occupational, and physical therapy. Despite the fact that we do have insurance—and are gainfully employed—my son is still losing the support he needs because of politicians undermining Medicaid.
3. I also manage a chronic condition, as do my aunt and father. If you no longer protect people—like me—with pre-existing conditions, I look at a possible future with soaring medical costs and the possibility that I may be uninsurable. The financial damage that my family would sustain if that were to happen would lead us to destitution. Not to mention, what if my son hits his lifetime cap by the time he's 4-5 because of the services he receives now. What will he do? What will his future look like? The Republican

Party right now is forcing all Americans—not just the poor—but all of us into an uncertain, economically unstable future.

The passage of this bill is a death knell to American exceptionalism. You cannot have a vibrant, thriving country if millions of its citizens are sick, dying or destitute.

Sincerely,

Kristen Warms

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maureen Baeck [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO TO GRAHAM-CASSIDY

PUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, BEFORE YOUR CORPORATE SPONSORS!!! SHAME ON YOU!



Maureen Baeck
Address: [REDACTED] NJ 07882
Phone: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Website: [REDACTED]
Twitter: [REDACTED]
Instagram: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Cary [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a full-time addiction 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.

--

Susan Cary, M.D.

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Finnerty [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I have two children with Autism and other mental health issues for whom access to health insurance has been and will likely again be essential to their ability to live and be productive. And I am imploring you to vote against any form of ACA repeal that doesn't ensure coverage at least as thorough and available as what exists now.

Prior to the ACA our mental healthcare insurance had a family lifetime cap of 100 visits maximum. That means all five of us in our family had to share 100 therapy/psychiatric visits and 100 visits alone.

Tell me how fast do you think two children weighed down with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, General Anxiety Disorder, and Autism go through 100 mental healthcare visits?

I could cite study after study, but instead I will simply say this: people will suffer and die if the ACA is repealed and "replaced" by the feeble excuse of a plan that is the Graham-Cassidy bill. That this country might become the cruelest place imaginable—one that intentionally deprives its citizens of life-preserving and life-saving measures because federalism and state experimentation seems attractive—is deeply disappointing to me.

You have the chance to be on the right side of history. Please.

Save our daughters. Save the ACA.

Amy Finnerty

60142
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brenda Dietrich [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

The Graham Cassidy healthcare bill is an affront to American citizens, the healthcare profession, and human decency. Any senator who supports this bill is demonstrating his/her allegiance to donors rather than his/her constituents or this country.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Schumer, Senator (Schumer); Gillibrand, Kirsten (Gillibrand)
Subject: Opposing Graham Cassidy Bill

I am deeply disheartened and dismayed at the possible passage of this cruel bill. I have an adult son who is in recovery from many years of major substance abuse. And yes, I read to him every night and was Class Mother in elementary school. His inter-generation trauma has been heir to the Holocaust.

He desperately needed a multitude of medical and psychiatric services to have had a chance at recover. There is no question that he would be dead without his Managed Medicaid. He is now taking a class at a local community college, has a girlfriend and lives at a local YMCA. I hope and believe that he will continue on this path and become a self supporting, contributing member of our society.

He would have had no chance without Medicaid which is saving his life.

Please vote no to this cruel Graham Cassidy Bill.

Joan Cela
10708

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: C Adams <cri[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Citizen Comment - Hearing to Consider Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal

Senate Finance Committee
Hearing to Consider Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal
Monday, September 25 at 2:00pm, EDT

Comment submitted by:

Cristina Adams
[REDACTED]
Austin, TX 78731

I am emphatically opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is unconscionable and incomprehensible 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. If this bill is passed, it will upend the insurance and medical fields, and throw millions of American citizens off health insurance.

Are you aware that virtually every industry involved in the medical field has come out vocally against Graham-Cassidy. So have the majority of Americans. Is the Senate not listening to the voters, or do our public servants simply no longer care about the good the of people? You know full well the people do not want the ACA repealed. You know the people are opposed to Graham-Cassidy. You know, and yet you continue to ignore our voices.

Among the numerous negative effects, Graham-Cassidy would:

- Completely eliminate the ACA's marketplace subsidies, which currently help 10 million people afford health coverage. They would no longer be guaranteed any assistance to buy plans.
- End the expansion of Medicaid, which has extended coverage to close to 12 million low-income adults. The plan offers no guarantee of alternative affordable coverage for these beneficiaries, and scales back (and eventually eliminates!) funding to expansion states.
- 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.
- Puts women's health at risk by barring states from reimbursing Planned Parenthood for preventive health (mammograms, pap smears, etc) and family planning services for people enrolled in Medicaid.
- Undercut protections for people with pre-existing conditions by allowing states to waive the ACA's prohibition on charging people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums as

well as its essential health benefit requirements. This means some consumers would not be able to get critical services like maternity care and substance use treatment, or afford coverage at all.

- Inflict great harm on people struggling with substance use disorders by slashing Medicaid, and cutting services and financial assistance to afford premiums or copayments for office visits and medicine, jeopardizing access to the most effective treatments for addiction and to life-saving overdose medicine.
- Undermine coverage gains for communities of color. GCHJ would cause long-term damage to the Medicaid program and raise health care costs to extremely unaffordable levels for consumers. Millions of low-income people of color, especially those with chronic health conditions, would be among the hardest hit.
- Replace Medicaid expansion dollars and marketplace subsidies with inadequate block grants that would impose massive federal cuts on states and end in 2026.
- Impose a Medicaid per capita cap that cuts care for seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children - cuts that would grow much larger in coming decades.

The fact is that without a full CBO score detailing the impact on how many exactly consumers will lose coverage and with no time for actual debate, this hearing is nothing more than a distraction from what is really happening: the latest attempt to gut Medicaid and strip health care from millions of Americans.

It is long past time for the Republican Party to stop putting ideology and party above all else. 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.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Curtis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

My mother is not rich; I remember as a kid buying food with actual stamps. She has lost good jobs and it was entirely her fault. However, since losing said good job, she was worked two and sometimes three jobs to make things work. She is not lazy. She has not been on public assistance since I was a small child almost 40 years ago. She has also had cancer twice. By now she would have used up any lifetime limit. Without preexisting condition guarantees, she would be forced to either forgo care, or possibly file bankruptcy due to the high dollar amounts of her health care bills. Quality, affordable healthcare has nothing to do with people looking for handouts and everything to do with treating people with respect.

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

Sincerely,
Beth Curtis
[REDACTED]
Kenmore, NY 14217

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Aquila [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill hearing

Dear Senators:

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

I am a self-employed, 60-year old woman who buys health insurance on the open market. I also have pre-existing conditions and rely on my insurance to purchase affordable prescription drugs for depression, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure. Without my medication to treat my depression, I would not be able to work and support myself.

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

Sincerely,

Cynthia Aquila
Brooklyn, NY 11209

[REDACTED]

Cynthia Aquila
[REDACTED]
Brooklyn, NY
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betty Eriksen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

i strongly urge you to not repeal the affordable care act. my grandson, who is now 9, was diagnosed with cancer at 10 months. he is in remission, but the new bill being proposed by the republican senate would deem him unable to be in a future employee insurance pool. this would make it impossible for him to afford health care on his own, and it would also greatly impact his ability to get employment in his future. his medical treatment has already had an impact on his family with meeting deductibles. but by allowing insurers to penalize patients with preexisting conditions it would doom him to a lifetime of marginal living. why would we as a country allow the most vulnerable in our society to suffer for something so outside of their control?

in a civilized society health care is the responsibility of everyone. allowing younger healthier people to opt out of paying is an unworkable idea. in minnesota we have mandatory car insurance. so even drivers like myself with no accidents or tickets pay higher premiums to make insurance possible for less careful drivers. i am 70 years old, but my state taxes and real estate taxes pay for my local schools even though i have no one in my household in school. that is what living in a first world country means, we all contribute to the welfare of the citizens of our country.

please do not condemn my grandson and so many other children and adults to marginal american dream.

sincerely, betty eriksen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gretchen Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept 25, 2017

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We have dealt with pre-existing conditions, including diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis, and know how incredibly difficult it is to try to work when sick, just to obtain the most rudimentary care through employer provided insurance. These efforts - not all successful - have brought a great deal of pain and sorrow to my own life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Gretchen Thompson
[REDACTED]
St Paul, MN 55106

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Haleigh Kent-Bryant [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Constituent opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

Trump are is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote 'yes' on this bill (as well as any other unethical 'Trumpcare' scam) will be remembered in the next election and history books as dismal officials with a contorted, self-destructive concept of what makes America exceptional.

The medical community is united against this bill, as evidenced by the singular opposition endorsed by all 50 state Medicaid directors. If the unanimous protest by health experts is not enough to sway you, also consider the strong and consistent opposition organized by the citizens of this nation, many of whom literally rely on the Affordable Care Act for their survival.

I trust you will make the correct decision and vote 'no' on the Graham-Cassidy Bill, otherwise you doom millions of Americans to unimaginable hardship.

Regards,
Haleigh Kent-Bryant

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Al Norman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Opposition

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 of Massachusetts \$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!

Yours,

Al Norman
Executive Director

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Bedford, MA 01730



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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MARIE SIMILIEN [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill that would dump America's health care bill into the laps of the states. This is literally passing the buck to the states, leaving them to sort through the broken pieces of our health care system. Graham-Cassidy will cost our state \$3.5 billion in lost federal revenues over a six year period beginning in 2020. Our Medicaid program will have to be significantly cut back, since we were an expansion state under the ACA. Poor people should not be targeted in any health care reform. "Revise and Restore" the Affordable Care Act!

Thank you,

Marie Alice Similien

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MA 02136

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Hatmaker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I disagree with this bill and believe we need more information rather than rushing it through.

The industry needs to be reviewed and we should study what works in other developed countries. Our system is broken. It's limping along but we need to look for bipartisan solutions.

Lauren Hatmaker
Owner / Loan Consultant
Eugene Mortgage Brokers

[REDACTED] 1
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[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Reiser [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: the Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy act. It is unconscionable to me that our elected officials would even think of killing off the ACA, which has covered so many more Americans and decreased the trajectory of medical costs. Imposing this new law will upend the insurance and medical fields, and throw so many citizens off health insurance. From what I've read, not one industry involved in the medical field is in favor of this law.

What we need is a thoughtful, bipartisan discussion of how to improve the ACA and how to finance it so that as many Americans as possible can have basic, affordable health care.

So let's return to the negotiations undertaken by Senators Alexander and Murray.

Respectfully,

Katharyn Reiser

Austin TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tami Dowers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Hello,

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

My mother suffered a severe hemorrhagic stroke in 2014. Without affordable coverage, she surely would be dead.

Just like my parents, I have had coverage most of my life but during my time being self-employed, I was DENIED coverage despite my ability to afford it! Why was I denied? Because of a pre-existing condition.

We, the citizens of the United States, need to continue to help one another like the the ACA does with protections for low-income families and the disabled and allow those with pre-existing conditions coverage.

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

Sincerely,

Tami Dowers
Thief River Falls, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shelley Peters [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: the health care bill

Dear Senate Committee,

Please consider the letters you are receiving and work to improve the Affordable Care Act as most Americans desire instead of slashing health care spending and Medicaid over time for most states.

Thank you, Shelley Peters

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Harper [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Hearing

To whom it may concern:

My husband relies on the Affordable Care Act and the quality, affordable healthcare it provides. Nearly a year ago, my husband was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. His diagnosis came as a result of unusual behavior in the work place that made it impossible for him to maintain work. His field is nursing, and he spent years training for this work. Because he comes from a low-income family, his nursing schooling required him to take out substantial student loans. His illness (bipolar disorder) did not allow him to keep work once employed, and I was left with the sole burden of supporting us -- massive student loan payments (for both of us!), a mortgage payment, and regular life expenses. After he lost his work, Michael was only able to be diagnosed and to begin treatment through the Affordable Care Act, which allowed us to purchase affordable health insurance through the marketplace. Today, he began a new full-time nursing job, and we are hopeful for the future. But today's hope is only possible because he was able to receive quality medical care through the Affordable Care Act.

Because of my husband's story and so many like it, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. For my family and for so many others, this is a matter of life and death.

Sincerely,
Margaret Harper
Exeter, New Hampshire

Margaret Harper, DMA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Morrison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Proceeding with this legislation is not about the health of Americans. Without a process that includes regular order, your efforts are simply devisive.

Sincerely,

John Morrison
Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve, don't repeal, the ACA

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the availability of affordable healthcare in the U.S. I rely on affordable healthcare. When I was a freelancer a few years ago, the only reason I had healthcare was because of the Affordable Care Act. The opportunity to enroll in decent health insurance after not being able to afford insurance for a decade gave me immeasurable peace of mind--and allowed me to take care of myself with preventative healthcare.

Many of my fellow freelancers from that time still rely on the ACA to provide affordable, decent healthcare so they can create services that don't exist currently and help innovate our economy.

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

Sincerely,

Jessica Wilson

Baltimore, MD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Stenberg Zeidel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

Please consider your constituents, who need health care! WE have our daughter on our plan; she is a student still. Also family members need birth control to manage cramping...

Finally, I strongly encourage you not to pass any health care bills until the CBO reports are in and you have the details on financial impact. Publicly air these discussions and hold adequate public hearings so you have time for input...

Thank you!

Julie Zeidel

Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kirk furniss [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health bill

Please study this more and try to develop a bill which is bipartisan and that doesn't leave so many uninsured. Please don't pass this one.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teddy Laury [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

Millions of people will loose their access to healthcare if you pass the Graham-Cassidy Bill.
As a Christian I beg you to vote No on this bill.

Teddy Laury
Ocala, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lea Chartock [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill

To Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge all of you in the strongest terms to reject this bill. As proposed, it would

- eliminate the ACA's marketplace subsidies and Medicaid expansion, replacing them with an inadequate block grant. There's no requirement to offer low- and moderate-income people coverage or financial assistance.
- convert Medicaid's current federal-state financial partnership to cap and cut federal Medicaid per-beneficiary funding for seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children.
- eliminate or weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions.
- destabilize the individual insurance market in the short run and risk its collapse in the long run.
- eventually result in larger coverage losses. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) previously estimated that repeal-without-replace would cause 32 million people to lose coverage. The Cassidy-Graham bill would likely lead to greater numbers of uninsured after 2026, because it would not only eliminate its block grant funding but also make increasingly severe federal funding cuts to the rest of the Medicaid program.

As a citizen, I find it reprehensible that elected representatives of the people could consider passing a bill that would make it impossible for the most vulnerable people in our country to get even the most basic health care. If you or any of your family members were to be confronted with a serious illness, you wouldn't hesitate to use your gold-plated insurance coverage for every test or procedure that could cure or manage the situation. How, in good conscience, can you deny the same access to your fellow

Americans? How can you call yourselves family friendly when this bill would so obviously hurt so many American families?

Don't play political games with our health care. Reject Cassidy-Graham. It's antithetical to the most basic American values.

Lea Chartock

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Larry Cormier [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

This bill is anti-American, and I implore that it be struck down.

- It will raise rates for all insured. It will drastically raise rates on the elderly.
- Estimates are that 30 million will not be able to afford insurance. This will cause unneeded suffering and death.
- The CBO score will not come out for another week or so. Pushing this bad bill through, before proper consideration is given, is against the reason we elect representatives.
- Lies are propagated by the proponents of this bill to hide its true effect.
- Every major medical entity is against the bill. Their basis is the hypocritical oath – to do no harm.
- Insurers are against the bill
- Alaska has been given a special insurance plan to attempt to get their vote. If the bill was so good, why would they possibly need a special one for Alaska? And, is this not a form of discrimination?

WE NEED THIS BILL STOPPED.

Guilford NC Precinct FR2 Democratic Chair
Lawrence Cormier

[REDACTED]
Jamestown, NC 27282

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Natalia Torres [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom it may concern:

I, like millions of other Americans, rely on quality, affordable healthcare and because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As an educator working with some of New York City's most under-resourced communities, I know how deeply important access to affordable healthcare is and how detrimental these efforts to repeal the ACA are.

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

Sincerely,
Natalia Torres

[REDACTED]
New York, NY 10002

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please don't destroy my Obamacare. It is working for my family and we need it!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mom [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To the finance committee:

I am a physician in Texas who has worked in private practice as well as in our local community clinic which provides health care to the working poor.

Just last week, a 61 yo female, who worked in the Texas legislature for years but had no pension or healthcare coverage, died of a completely preventable cause. She died because she went to Mexico to get the medications she needed and had a fatal heart attack. Had she been 65, affluent or with permanent health insurance like our esteemed MOC, she would still be alive. I told her she needed to go to the ER but she was worried about the cost. Had she gone, I have little doubt that she would have undergone a cardiac cath, would have been diagnosed with critical coronary artery stenosis and gotten a bypass or stent.

I struggle with anger and grief. It is time for a thoughtful, bipartisan conversation which actually provides health to the people of the country. We do not deserve all the political posturing which is what the Graham Cassidy bill represents.

PLEASE vote against it; don't go through a fake meeting with no numbers from the CBO or a true discussion.

Thank you.

Parul Desai, MD

Sent from my iPhone 5

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mia Begin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Hello,

I am writing about the Cassidy-Graham health care bill in the senate. My family situation is that we are a middle class family (teacher and self employed) and could not afford health care if it were not for my job. Although i have health care through my job, my plan increases each year and it increased 11% this year. We rely on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Even though my husband and i are healthy people who exercise and eat right, we both have pre-existing conditions.

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

Sincerely,
Mia Begin
[REDACTED]
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Mia Begin
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matt Akin [mailto:maakin@texasattorneysgeneral.com]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Revised Graham-Cassidy bill

The revised bill is unconstitutional:

Section 8. Clause 1. The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Naylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. It would devastate disabled people like my daughter by reducing medicaid coverage that is desperately needed.
Nancy Sarangan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: faye3504 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE, PLEASE Vote "NO" on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

Another day, more emails and more phone calls and necessary on my behalf in the interest of many.
Let me reiterate my OPPOSITION to this bill.

Let's work together for the people of this country. This bill is not in the best interest of the people of the U.S.

I urge you to VOTE NO on ANY VERSION of this bill which may be presented.

Respectfully,

Faye DiLeo

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rayne MacGeorge <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy!

Repair the ACA, do not take this step to repeal and throw possibly 32mil off of health care. Graham-Cassidy is not good for the American people.

Cannot believe how many times this has been attempted. The people continue to say NO yet this continues. This has become only a waste of time and taxpayer money.

Please reconsider.
Thank you.

Rayne MacGeorge
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lee, Jennife [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Letter Opposing Graham Cassidy Bill
Attachments: Senate Finance Committee Letter Graham-Cassidy Bill.docx.pdf

To the Senate Finance Committee,

Attached you will find a letter from Stavros opposing the Graham Cassidy Bill. We believe this bill will have devastating impacts on persons with disabilities in Massachusetts and beyond.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lee

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Virginia Vitzthum [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:45 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

Virginia Vitzthum
[REDACTED] NY 11230

I have employer-sponsored health care, but I work with New York City foster children, all of whom are on Medicaid. They have no families; the state IS their parent. They have trouble obtaining housing, decent education, jobs. Do you think they should also be denied health care?

This bill is cruel and unusual punishment.

It looks very stark now; those voting against are voting for their constituents' well-being. Those voting for this awful bill are doing their donors' bidding, and the people will hold it against them.

Thank you for reading,
Virginia Vitzthum



--
Please note my new email address: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Hastings <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Committee members,
I am a retired RN who worked in a tertiary care hospital.

As a Registered Nurse, I experienced the changes wrought by the Reagan-era deregulation of the health care system while working in a hospital. The first change I noticed was that we were made aware of which patients were insured vs uninsured. Then words like “market share,” and “margin” (aka profit) entered our lexicon. Health care had adopted the language, practices and values of business – not all bad, but a huge shift with consequences.

As the business model took over, efficiency became the priority – often to the detriment of compassion. We were encouraged to think of patients as “customers” – a change in perspective that did not always benefit the patient. We were taught how to chart with “enhancing revenue” in mind. These changes demoralized our nursing staff. It is the reason I retired early. I could no longer give the kind of holistic care that fulfilled my professional sensibilities.

In my opinion, the health care system has gone awry since it was deregulated in the Reagan era. People don’t remember that before deregulation, Blue Cross/Blue Shield was a not-for-profit organization! Now, there are many profit-driven interests in the industry that have inflated and distorted costs and benefits. The system is now more about earning profit for corporations than about care and compassion.

As more details are coming to light concerning new health care legislation, I urge those who support repeal of “Obamacare” (Affordable Care Act) to reconsider. The ACA attempted to put limits on the influences of profit interests. (People don’t remember that before deregulation, Blue Cross/Blue Shield was a not-for-profit organization.) Now, profit-driven interests dominate.

Sincerely,

Susan Hastings
Afton, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Cassidy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy health Care bill

Please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy Health Care Bill...this would hurt so many people the way it is written...it is a danger to the American People and their health. I repeat please do not pass this bill.

Linda Cassidy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing, Monday September 25, 2017

My family and I rely on quality affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both pre-existing conditions and disability affect my family; and we are on a limited income. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Catherine Dahnoun
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shanna Devine [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Steven Knieval; Eagan Kemp
Subject: Public Citizen Statement for the Record
Attachments: Public Citizen Finance Hearing Statement on Graham Cassidy Final.pdf

To Whom It May Concern,

Please see enclosed Public Citizen's statement for the record for today's Senate Finance Committee hearing, "Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal".

Thank you,

Shanna Devine
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Washington, D.C. 20009
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill..I am a 48 yr old single woman living with stage 4 breast cancer and rely on Medicaid to pay for my treatments...Without my treatments I will die... Please Improve the ACA not repeal and replace..

Sincerely,
Susan Seymour
East Windsor,NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Guercio [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

I do not support this bill. Too many Americans will lack health insurance access due to affordability. Republicans just added \$50B to the Defense appropriation for our service members. This is a good thing but why leave out the rest of America?

This bill was drawn up in secret, without input from impacted health care participants, Democrats and the public. It is being pushed through with one committee hearing. The American people deserve better. Listen to us. Bi-partisan health care planning and agreement are possible. This is also the right way to develop a health care plan that affects every single person in our country.

Respectfully,

Mary Lib Guercio
[REDACTED]
The Woodlands, TX 77382
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Thoughts on Graham-Cassidy Act

I would like to share my family's story and let you know why I hope you vote NO on this piece of legislation.

I am 41 and asthmatic. To be honest, my asthma has improved. I have most days without need for rescue inhalers and continue to use my medications as prescribed and have many great days. My asthma constitutes a "pre-existing" condition, and I will be discriminated against in terms of insurance costs.

I have a 14 year old son with ADHD and anxiety. He sees a psychiatrist and psychologist on the regular. He is medicated. He goes to therapy. If lifetime maximums are reinstated, he will hit his in a short amount of time. I shouldn't have to compromise his mental health for a time in the future where he may have a medical health crisis and need insurance. He, too, will also be discriminated against in terms of insurance costs.

I have an 11 year old son with autism. He receives countless therapies, ABA, OT, Speech. He also sees a psychiatrist. He is medicated. His costs, alone, top \$50,000 annually. Without coverage, he will not receive the therapies he needs to help him function in our society. He will be highly discriminated against in terms of insurance costs, and he, too, will hit his lifetime maximum, should those be reinstated. I don't want to forgo essential, necessary therapy in order to insure that he'll have medical coverage as an adult. Cuts to Medicaid and Medicare will impact him, as well, as he will likely be underemployed as an adult, due to his disability, and insurance will be hard to come by.

I see this as a RIGHT TO LIFE issue. When one talks about quality of life, and the Right to Life, it isn't just for the unborn..it's for ALL. It's making sure that our citizens and YOUR CONSTITUENTS, are able to live without concern of bankruptcy should a health crisis occur, or should a family have a child (or 2 or 3) who have significant needs.

I implore you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I thank my senators, Senator Richard Durbin and Senator Tammy Duckworth of IL for their constant support of those of us with the need for good insurance. I praise their support of LIFE.

Thank you,
Lisa Smith
Resident of IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gaby [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Like millions of Americans with a pre-existing condition I rely on quality, affordable, healthcare.

Because of this I emphatically do not support the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I would like to see a sane, mature, bipartisan, approach to healthcare that covers all Americans or at least one that improves the ACA instead of repeals it (without any viable replacement).

Sincerely,

G. Tako
Phoenix, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Randa Evans <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public comments

I am writing to express my views on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. I am adamantly opposed to this bill because it is NOT an improvement on the ACA whatsoever, has been once again RUSHED through the Senate without debate, without expert testimony, without a full CBO score. I find it completely irresponsible of Republican senators to keep plowing ahead without this information, which can only lead me to believe that their ultimate goal has nothing to do with healthcare coverage for Americans but for finding ways to cut taxes for corporations and the rich.

This bill does NOT ensure that healthcare is affordable, accessible and meaningful. It does not provide adequate Medicaid funds to ensure that the poor, the elderly, children, and those MILLIONS living at or below the poverty level are able to get affordable care. It appears that 29 million people could lose healthcare. Not acceptable. This is not a Third World country.

Secondly, this bill does not protect people with pre-existing conditions. States are left to do whatever they decide to do, making it impossible to know. We can't all just up and move to another state to get a different plan. Senators who say this are out of touch with reality.

Third, it does not ensure any essential health benefits. These benefits are what keep us healthy, keep our new mothers and babies healthy, too. How dare you treat women's health needs as if they were non-essential.

There are more reasons why this bill is terrible, irresponsible and inadequate. There are many reasons why the senate process is appalling. We want to see a BIPARTISAN bill that is good for ALL citizens in ALL states.

Healthcare should provide us with peace of mind, not with fear, uncertainty and anxiety.

Thank you,

Randa Evans
Stow, MA

[REDACTED], Watertown MA 02472 USA
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Lyon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Please vote no on this bill which is the worst attempt yet on replacing the ACA. It would hurt needy children, hurt seniors, deny access to millions of Americans with special needs or or-existing conditions and in general create more emergency room costs for which hospitals are not equipped.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Laskowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham\ Cassidy Bill

Dear Ms or Sir:

I am a physician, retired health system CEO, and have devoted my professional life to the care of the sick and the development of systems of care to improve health. I have studied the healthcare system for decades and been responsible for the care for entire communities. Most importantly I am a person: a patient, a father, a husband, a friend and a citizen of my community and country. The current proposed "Graham Cassidy Bill" will have terrible negative effects on the health of our nation. Under the camouflage of "getting healthcare closer to the people" it dramatically reduces funding, and eliminates standards of coverage. It is opposed by every major medical group--for very good reasons. While the hurried and secret nature of the bill's formulation precludes a detailed analysis of its effects, the outlines are quite clear and profoundly disturbing--the markets for private insurance will collapse due to a lack of affordability and the dramatic increase in market uncertainty, the millions of Americans now covered under Medicaid expansion will lose health coverage as the funding, even in the states that elected to take federal money, is cutoff. Each State will be "free" to eliminate essential benefits or enable premium increases that penalize the sick. We can do better. We must do better.

The bipartisan discussions initiated in the Senate promise improvements and enhanced local flexibility. They should be pursued. Graham Cassidy is a bad bill. It should be defeated--for the sake of all Americans and their health.

Thanks you very much.

Robert J. Laskowski, [REDACTED]

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iversity
ware
[REDACTED] tired)
sors
[REDACTED] age

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Bell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments to Senate Finance Committee Meeting September 25th at 2 p.m.

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill that seeks to replace the Affordable Care Act. This bill will:

- Cut overall funding for health insurance
- Make changes to Medicaid, which has been the safety net for millions of low-income Americans.
- Convert current funding to block grant funding. This means that states like Texas, where I live, will continue to provide negligible health coverage to low and middle-income people and money for health care may be diverted to other non-health-care programs. As a social worker, I have seen how the lack of a health safety net has ruined the lives of people whose only mistake is getting sick.
- Weaken the pre-existing condition provisions of The ACA and drive up the cost of insurance for those who can least afford it.
- Make a 40% tax on workers' health benefits permanent, while letting employers off the hook entirely for contributing to workers' health care.

Further, without a full CBO score detailing the impact on how many consumers will lose coverage and with no time for actual debate, this hearing is a distraction from what is really happening: the latest attempt to gut Medicaid and strip health care from millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

Holly Bell
[REDACTED]

Austin, Texas 78704

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Sykes [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: strong opposition to the proposed "health care" bill

We are writing to express our strong and outraged opposition to this bill. In addition to the reprehensible effects this bill would have on millions of Americans, the process by which this bill is being advanced is outrageous. We appreciate Sen. John McCain's principled opposition due to the deeply flawed process (although we do not share his support for many of the elements of this proposal). We are glad that at least the restrictions on how to provide comments were lifted - making it possible for us to share our thoughts:

We are fortunate to have access to health care coverage through our respective employers. We know people who do not have this route to access and for whom the marketplace plans are a lifeline. Literally a lifeline. We think back to a friend who died a number of years ago, prior to the passage of the Affordable Health Care Act, because she had no access to health care - she could not afford to seek treatment for what turned out to be colon cancer, and it killed her - a premature and avoidable early death.

We find that these elements of this proposal are particularly egregious, because they represent literally thousands and thousands of deaths like our friend's death:

The impact on thousands and thousands of families - including adults and children with disabilities - of loss of Medicaid coverage.

Removal of coverage of pre-existing conditions

The REWARDING of states - including our own - that elected to NOT accept Medicaid expansion by giving them more money.

There is nothing in this bill we can support.

In a country of great wealth like ours - it is disgraceful that you cannot do better for the citizens of this country. We ask that all members of the Senate would consider what their situation and that of their families would look like if you had to live under this bill. How many of you and/or your family members would lose health care or not be able to get it because of having a pre-existing condition? How many of you and/or your family members would die an avoidable death?

We ask that the members of the Senate do the right thing and kill this bill - so that the effects of it cannot kill thousands of Americans.

Mary Sykes & Judy Seymour

[REDACTED]
Madison, Wisconsin
53704

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alex Fus [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy: First, Do No Harm

Dear Senators of the Finance Committee,

I am one of the lucky ones. I've never had to choose between paying my medical bills or paying my rent, or weighed the risks of going without coverage because I couldn't afford insurance

premiums

with a preexisting condition

. But too many people I love have faced th

o

se awful choices and will again if the irresponsible and inhumane Graham-Cassidy bill is allowed to pass, and I implore you to do all in your power to stop it.

I write in

strong

opposition to Graham-Cassidy and to

any partisan

effort to repeal the American Care Act that would cut Medicaid spending

or

strip insurance coverage from millions of Americans.

All 50 members of the

National Association of Medicaid Directors

have come out in opposition to this bill because if

would remove protections for preexisting conditions, make unprecedented deep cuts to Medicaid and sabotage the insurance market by

end

ing

the Affordable Care Act's tax credits and cost-sharing subsidies.

I agree with

Kaiser Permanente that any changes to healthcare law should "increase access to high-quality, affordable care and coverage for as many people as possible" and that "the Cassidy-Graham bill does not meet any of those tests."

No less an authority than t

he American Medical Association

itself

warns that Graham-Cassidy

violates doctors' oath to "first do no harm

and without a full CBO score on the bill's effects or the open public debate, real hearings, and bipartisan amendments required under regular order, this bill constitutes clear legislative malpractice.

Your constituents across the country have spoken out in opposition to this bill, but don't just take it from us. Listen to the experts advice from the broad coalition of doctors, hospitals, insurance providers, and patient advocacy groups who also oppose Graham-Cassidy:


- Adult Congenital Heart Association
- ALS Association
- Alzheimer's Association
- Alzheimer's Impact Movement
- American Cancer Society
- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American College of Physicians
- American College of Preventive Medicine
- American Diabetes Association
- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Cancer Society
- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American College of Physicians
- American College of Preventive Medicine
- American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Diabetes Association
- America's Essential Hospitals
- American Foundation for the Blind
- American Health Care Association
- America's Health Insurance Plans
- American Heart Association
- American Hospital Association
- American Liver Foundation
- American Lung Association
- American Medical Association
- American Nurses Association
- American Osteopathic Association
- American Occupational Therapy Association
- American Psychiatric Association
- American Psychological Association
- American Public Health Association
- American Society for Addiction Medicine
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Amputee Coalition
- The Arc
- Arthritis Foundation
- Association for Community Affiliated Plans

- Association of American Medical Colleges
- Association of University Centers on Disabilities
- Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
- Autism Society
- Autism Speaks
- Autistic Self Advocacy Network
- Big Cities Health Coalition
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
- Catholic Health Association
- Children's Hospital Association
- Center for Medicare Advocacy
- Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose
- Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
- COPD Foundation
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Family Voices
- Federation of American Hospitals
- HIV Medicine Association
- Infectious Diseases Society of America
- JDRF
- Lutheran Services in America
- Kaiser Permanente
- March of Dimes
- Medicare Rights Center
- National Association of Medicaid Directors
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- National Association of School Nurses
- National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
- National Down Syndrome Congress
- National Health Council
- National Institute for Reproductive Health
- National Kidney Foundation
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- National Organization for Rare Diseases
- Planned Parenthood
- Public Health Institute
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Trust for America's Health
- WomenHeart

Please, on behalf of all Americans, stop this legislative malpractice and first, do no harm with your vote.

Sincerely,

Alex Fus


Portland, OR 97229

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Blakely [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am against this current 'replacement' for the ACA. No matter what the rhetoric is, they are selling a bill that does NOT guarantee pre-existing conditions will be covered in every state. I still do not understand why the US is the only country in the free world without universal healthcare. You should be working WITH other Congressional member to improve the ACA, not working to pull the rug out from under millions of Americans. AND, removing ANY money from Medicaid is SHAMEFUL in order to give tax breaks to the top 2 per cent is insane. No matter how many times you try to tell people that giving tax breaks to corporations, and taking billions in lobbying money from corporations, will somehow help the poor and middle class - it does not work - it never has. All this has ever done is to enrich the richest, who then put their money in foreign banks. They do NOT spend their 'tax savings' on hiring here, only jobs created are slave wages for overseas workers - for more profits, and to enrich the people who own stock in these companies.

I know you won't read this - but mos people no longer have stock. We lost it all during the last years of the Bush administration. Since you wish to allow the unfettered behavior of Wall Street, do not expect different results. The middle class who may still have retirement in the stock market will lose out. We will again lose our houses and 'luxuries' like cars will no longer be affordable.

Regards,

Christine L. Blakely

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jean Atkin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

My husband and I rely on affordable care for our insurance. We are invested in our health and appreciate the benefits of the ACA we were able to keep our Drs and see them yearly. Please keep the ACA and improve it so that it works well in each state. Thanks. Jean Atkin, Mt. Pleasant Michigan 48858

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: randy schad [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Government Leaders,

We rely on quality affordable healthcare. We oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. One of our nieces suffers from rheumatoid arthritis and another has a severe mental health disease. Their families cannot afford any health care changes. Put yourself in their parents' shoes.

We would like to see a bipartisan bill improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please work together on this and other issues facing our country. Put the politics aside.

Sincerely,

Randy Schad
Phyllis Schad

Troy, Michigan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Flemmi [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy

NO to Graham-Cassidy

Jessica Flemming

[REDACTED]
SF CA 94118

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ginger Redden [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Monday Sept. 25, 2017

I work with disabled Veterans, many of whom rely on the ACA for their healthcare. Even though they are eligible for healthcare through the VA, their spouse and children may not be covered or do not have Tricare. Some Veterans also prefer to stay with their primary care provider, especially in rural areas where their local VA clinic might be hours away. The VA is not equipped to handle the additional sudden influx of Veterans either, most clinics are at maximum capacity or over capacity. The Choice Act has fortunately received funding to continue providing outside care, but many Veterans have complained about the poor quality of care they receive in the private sector, especially if they have multiple health conditions. For this reason I would like to see the Affordable Care Act continue and find a bipartisan solution to improving it.

Sincerely,
Ginger Redden
[REDACTED]
Smithville, TX 78957

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheila McCaffrey
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

....
As an employee of Catholic Social Services, many of our clients would lose their health coverage. Clients of all ages would be hurt, those in our recovery programs, in our programs focusing on transition out of homelessness, clients living in poverty, clients with mental health challenges, our senior population, and many others.

Sheila McCaffrey

19301
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: H. L. Nelson [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy proposed bill

To the Senate Finance Committee,

As a resident of Texas - one of the states which benefits from the reallocation of funds in the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill - I am writing to express my opposition to this legislation.

The authors of this bill argue that "it's only fair" to redistribute federal dollars to states like Texas because these states are not getting as much money. However, Texas had an opportunity to accept the same level of federal funding as New York and California, but refused to expand Medicaid. This harmed our state, but it was a self-inflicted wound and one which Governor Abbott could remedy with a stroke of the pen if he chose.

I object to the provisions in Graham-Cassidy which cap Medicaid reimbursements and will destroy the system in 2026 when the time-based provisions in the bill expire.

I am also deeply concerned about the revisions to the proposed bill released over the weekend which (a) remove requirements for states to submit waivers; (b) do not define what Affordable or Adequate insurance coverage or Pre-existing Conditions actually mean; and (c) provide no specification of consequences or recourse if a state plan fails to meet its objectives. Additionally, allowing states to define their own Essential Health Benefits, out of pocket maximums, and community ratings will result in some states allowing insurance companies to decide not to cover serious health conditions and limiting the amount they cover for others.

This is a bad bill, badly rolled out, without time to know the actual costs or impact on citizens. Do not allow this bill to proceed. Return to regular order and craft a bill that works for all Americans, not just for those in states whose Senators' votes are needed to reach 50 votes.

Sincerely,
Louise Nelson
Austin, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Swayne [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy act. It is unconscionable to me that our elected officials would even think of killing off the ACA, which has covered so many more Americans and decreased the trajectory of medical costs and imposing this new law which will upend the insurance and medical fields, and throw so many citizens off health insurance. From what I've read, not one industry involved in the medical field is in favor of this law.

What we need is a thoughtful, bipartisan discussion of how to improve the ACA and how to finance it so that as many Americans as possible can have basic, affordable health care, and so that health care costs can be reined in.

Thank you,
Deborah Swayne

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare bill

Dear Senate Committee,

I oppose this bill because it would jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction.

This plan weakens states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths.

This bill would disproportionately harm communities of color and others whose access to coverage and treatment is already restricted.

Our country will be a healthier and more productive country if we all have healthcare! And in the long run the country will pay less.

Please vote NO!

Thanks,

Verna Silvia

[REDACTED]
Ramona [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Petke [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Devastating Impact of Graham-Cassidy Bill on our Family
Attachments: Grandson's PROCEDURE KATIE BECKETT RENEWAL (Autosaved).pdf; ATT00001.htm

My grandson has a rare genetic disorder that can cause benign tumors to grow in any organ of his body, at any time during his life. Right now he has too many in his brain to count, five in his heart, and at least two in his kidneys. They could appear later in his eyes, lungs, liver, skin, etc. The ones in his brain have caused intractable seizures since he was two months old, and he is now seven. He is intellectually disabled, developmentally delayed, nonverbal, and incontinent because of these seizures. Yet he is a very loving child in a very loving home.

His parents both have college degrees. His father works in banking, and his mother was a teacher for the Deaf before Grandson was born. With all his doctor appointments (he has 5 specialists) and therapies, (9 a week), she had to quit work when he turned two.

Even with his father's excellent employer-provided insurance, the out-of-pocket expenses took just about all they earned with his job and the mother's sign-language interpreting contractor-type jobs.

They learned that their state has a Katie-Beckett waiver. As described on the state's website, it was: "Established in 1982 under the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act/TEFRA (P.L. 97-248), the Katie Beckett Medicaid Program (KB), permits the state to ignore family income for certain children who are disabled. It provides benefits to certain children 18 years of age or less who qualify as disabled individuals under §1614 of the Social Security Act and who live at home rather than in an institution. These children must meet specific criteria to be covered. Qualification is not based on medical diagnosis; instead it is based on the institutional level of care the child requires. Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations outlines the criteria used to determine eligibility." Basically, it means it is cheaper for Medicaid to pay for him to live at home and be cared for by his parents and his own doctors and therapists than for Medicaid to pay for him to be institutionalized. And you have to meet the criteria to be institutionalized (which, of course, he does) before you are eligible for the waiver. In other words, it rescued his parents from financial disaster, they get to live together as a family, and the state and federal governments save money.

This was important information because although his medical bills were about to sink them financially, they made too much money for him to qualify for the federal government's Supplemental Security Income. Because they were overwhelmed just taking care of his day-to-day needs, I volunteered to do the paperwork for the Katie-Beckett application. I am attaching the 3-page document that just describes the *procedure* that must be followed to prepare an application. The application, when it was finished, comprised a notebook of over 500 pages. The approval came through! His status lasts only one year at a time, so every year we must submit some level of documentation about his status for him to be approved again.

As burdensome as this paperwork is, it is worth it. Without Medicaid, he wouldn't be able to see all of his specialists so they could check him for new tumors, growth of existing tumors, or other problems. He wouldn't have all of his therapies. (In fact, if Medicaid did not pay for the therapies he has at school, he wouldn't have any therapy at all.) Any seizure that lasts over 5 minutes is life-threatening and requires a trip to the Emergency Department. His parents couldn't afford all of his visits to the Emergency Department. Each time they would have to decide, "Is THIS one dangerous enough to go to the hospital?"

If he had not had therapy from the time he was two months old, he would not be able to walk (and can now only do so with the help of orthotics, paid for by Medicaid), he would not be able to use a fork or spoon to feed himself (and even then he must have adult help and a lot ends up on the floor), he would not be able to drink through a straw, he would not be able to sometimes answer questions with a yes or a no with his assistive device.

Also, without Medicaid, his parents could not have bought him a car seat that keeps secure a 7-year-old at the developmental age of 9 months, or a bed that keeps him in his bed so that both of his parents can sleep all night.

This bill is dangerous and inequitable for many reasons, but my main concern is for the life of my grandson. If not him, some people *will* die if this bill is passed. Every time I learn of one of those deaths, I'll send the obituaries of them to every Senator who voted for it. But even if I didn't, I guarantee that some day it will come back to haunt them. Someone they love, or someone they know, or they themselves, will die because they couldn't get the health care they needed. I, for one, couldn't bear to have that on my conscience.

Sincerely,
Sharon Petke

Attachment

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carl Young [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: commentary

My thoughts regarding this legislation.

don't put my son at further risk of having his developmental disabilities criminalized. If he can't get the services he needs, then his symptoms, which manifest themselves as behaviors, cause him to do things that can be construed not as symptoms, but as things that are illegal. Prison is no place for him to get the care he needs and deserves to receive as a free man.

We adopted him when he was 18 months old. He is 16 now. He was court ordered Medicaid because of his special needs. We still have to fight to get him the care he needs. We live in North Dakota, a state that has budgetary issues lately, and at a minimum of 10,000 dollars a month, our son would hit his cap almost immediately. He deserves better from the world. He deserves better from all of us.

He was born with this condition. And unless someone put language in this legislation that specifically guarantees pre-existing conditions, then all hope will be lost for him.

Please don't take his future away from him by making it a block grant controlled by people who aren't in the best position to do so. It is hard enough to get services the way things are, determined by people and computers who are not medical experts, but rather won a contract based on a low bid.

Thank you
Carl Young
Bismarck, North Dakota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nick Singer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not get rid of my health care!

I have pre existing conditions and will find myself without access to quality health care if the upcoming Graham-Cassidy bill goes through. Please do not let this happen to me and to millions of other Americans!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joseph BRADY [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE: Cassidy Graham Bill

Sorry I forgot to Sign

From: Joseph BRADY
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: 'GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov' [REDACTED]
Subject: Cassidy Graham Bill

Thanks for requesting comments on this bill. I have a sister who is a senior citizen and depends on Medicaid for her health care. She was widowed early in life, with 2 daughters to raise, she has worked very hard all her life, she is a great caring person but for various reason is in a situation where Medicaid provides her Health care. The fact that this bill reduces and eliminates a lot of Medicaid and Medicare benefits is very concerning and unacceptable to me. My wife has just retired and I retire within 6 months we will be depending on Medicare and Social Security. Again this unacceptable that you are reducing Medicare benefits through this bill. Will you be going after Social Security next? I heard on Morning Joe this morning that you are also eliminating and cutting Preventive care which will increase the overall long term cost of health care. How can you possibly justify this. John Mc Cain has also condemn you for the backroom partisan way in which the bill was crafted which is anti-Democratic and in my viewpoint anti-patriotic. This is why the popularity of Congress is horrible, and rightfully so in this case. This seems clearly just a way to fulfill a political promise at the cost of poor health and death to the American people. You should be ashamed of yourself. Go back and re-craft a bill that is non-partisan, and is done if full view of the American people that elected you and is in the best interest of Americans health.

Joe Brady
Perkasie, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Coffin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

· ALL Americans rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Therefore, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is critical that the future of healthcare in the US be determined by a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Patricia Coffin

[REDACTED]
Sudbury, MA 01776

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Katz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy ACA Repeal Bill

Please vote against this bill. My friends and family rely on quality affordable healthcare. I oppose the G-C bill because too many of us have pre existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to improve it, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Amy Katz
Merion, Pa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shannon Tarkowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: STOP Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Removing protections from preexisting conditions is a death sentence for the majority of Americans. For those of us who are not in the top 3% earners, the premiums and extra costs insurance companies could charge us for treating preexisting conditions will be out of reach!

This affects so many people in my life!

- Mother, Sister, -Father – high cholesterol.
- Sister – Diabetic
- Mother – Blind, spinal stenosis
- Fiancé –high blood pressure, anxiety & depression, low income job so has Medicaid
- Son – 1 YEAR OLD – on Illinois All Kids Medicaid (what a GOD-SEND); I would have to pay \$580 per month to cover my son on my healthcare plan at work. I work for a non-profit, so funds aren't exactly plentiful!
- Me – depression, tendonitis,
 - I might want to have another child. Really, pregnancy as a preexisting condition?
 - Without essential health benefits, as a woman I will be penalized for not getting pregnant (having to pay for contraceptives out of pocket) and for becoming pregnant (pregnancy health care not being covered by insurance).
 - Or, in order to be covered, I'll have to pay much more out of pocket each month due to increased premiums.

Adding per capita caps or "block grants" is dangerous as well! These grants would harm seniors and people with disabilities disproportionately! Many studies have shown that allowing and enabling a person to stay in their home is less expensive than forcing them to live in an institution. Block Grants would take away many of the supports that enable people to stay at home, further increasing the burden on our system.

Essential Health Benefits are *essential!* Without these benefits, what are our premiums going towards? I need protection provided by insurance. I'm not paying premiums to line the pockets of CEOs!

DON'T LET US STEP BACKWARDS! Find a way to fund and support healthcare for those in our society who truly need it. Don't let the bottom line or the gold-lined pockets of greedy executives destroy health care for millions. **The measure of society is how we treat the lowest, poorest, and those most in need.**

In a time where the world is doubting America's leadership, please show them that you care about **ALL** of America, not just the upper echelon!

Sincerely,
Shannon Tarkowski
[REDACTED]
Normal, IL 61761
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott Dixon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose this bill

Please vote down this bill, which is ill considered and will hurt millions. Passing a bill which is almost universally opposed and which has had so little examination is irresponsible and negligent. Move on to other business.

JS Dixon
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Nettles [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill NO

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote NO on the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill.

It is not bi-partisan; it will take away healthcare access for Millions of people. It will weaken both Medicaid and Medicare, and be impossible to afford for Older citizens and those with pre-existing conditions. None of you would buy a car or house without knowing the price, so you should wait for the CBO to give an evaluation before taking action.

IF you're determined to destroy the ACA, we the people deserve a well thought out plan that IMPROVES the ACA. The USA deserves better.

Sincerely,

Anne Nettles

[REDACTED]
Macon, GA 31220

Sent from Anne Nettles, [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roni Gross [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not vote for graham cassady

The ACA is not perfect but it can be fixed. Don't turn your back on people with pre-existing conditions and those who need a safety net. That is a Basic purpose of good government This bill clearly does not benefit a majority of Americans. Politics should not be a factor in the important issue of healthcare.

Sincerely
Roni Grodd

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claire Berkowitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee Comments for Sept. 25 HELP Hearing
Attachments: MCA HELP Hearing Comments .pdf

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden,

Attached please find comments from the Maine Children's Alliance regarding today's HELP hearing on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. We appreciate the opportunity to voice our concerns about a bill that would harm thousands of children and families in Maine.

Please be in touch if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Claire Berkowitz
Executive Director
Maine Children's Alliance

[REDACTED]
Augusta, ME 04330
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: LOU ROSENBERG <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 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.

Lou Rosenberg
Los Angeles, CA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacky C [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I work in a clinic where several patients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many of my patients require Medicaid and all have disabilities, and to limit their ability to obtain quality healthcare is not only a travesty, but also irresponsible. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jacky Chapa Josephs
Bronx, NY

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Williams, Courtney Alice - willi7ca [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concerns about Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello!

My community relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Through my studies as a future elementary school teacher, I have seen many families that rely on affordable healthcare, and how not having it negatively impacts young children's learning. This therefore impacts the future of America negatively. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Courtney Williams
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Courtney Williams
James Madison University Class of 2018
IDLS, Elementary Education Major

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Kellerman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Hello,

The Graham Cassidy healthcare plan is at best irresponsible and at worse callous. If the senate really wants to fix the issues with the ACA this is not the way to do it. The way to do it is to actually work in a bipartisan way. To hold actual hearings. Not the half assed ones being done today. To include more than just rich white conservative men in on the discussion. Not a single patient advocacy group has come out in support of this bill. In fact they have all come out against it. And the heads of Medicaid in all 50 states have said it is a disaster. It is not only morally irresponsible but finically irresponsible to vote for a bill that does not have enough time to be fully vetted by INDEPENDENT NONPARTISAN groups like the CBO. I don't trust the writers of the bill to tell me health care will be cheaper. Especially when they won't even give it enough time to have those statements fact checked. The second version of this horrific, cruel bill further reveals its true intent. To get money from big donors while bribing states like Alaska and Maine to keep the ACA, which clearly isn't as bad as they claim. This plan is clearly just the GOP looking for a political win at the expense (quite literally) of the American people's lives. I agree the ACA isn't perfect. But Graham Cassidy and its supporters have shown they care more about their donors than the lives of Americans. I urge them to prove me wrong. To go through the proper channels and procedures to fix the few things wrong with the ACA. Otherwise the blood of American citizens, millions of them who will be kicked off of insurance, will be on their hands. Prove to us that you actually have a moral compass. Because I'm beginning to think otherwise.

Lisa
California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marvin Doolin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am outraged that this obscene defiance of the obvious will of the American people continues. The disingenuous claims of the system's impending collapse which mask its deliberate sabotage and the painfully untruthful promises that everyone will be better off may satisfy a few whose primary concern is to discredit President Obama, but even they will certainly turn on the Republican party when the truth is clearly seen. At some point no amount of Fox "news" alternate "facts" will conceal the actual fact that very dishonest and dark money is at the root of altogether too much of our representatives' behavior and that only a very few already very wealthy people will profit.

For the good of the American people you MUST stop trying to destroy the ACA and begin to actually try to do something to make it better. What has been done and said so far by the Republican majority is transparently self serving that panders to the worst impulses of our people.

Kill the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Stop working to make billionaires richer and begin to care about the rest of us.

Marvin Doolin, Jr.
[REDACTED]
Browning, IL 62624

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tara Gervais [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Concern over the Graham- Cassidy Bill

Importance: High

Dear Senators of Massachusetts,

I have great concerns over the Graham-Cassidy Bill and how it will impact my family as well as families that I help in my community as a nurse. I am especially concerned over any limitations concerning pre-existing conditions of any kind. I have family members with mental health conditions as well as Asthma and honestly don't know what I will do if these medical conditions are considered pre-existing conditions. As a nurse I have grave concerns over how my patients I watch over will be impacted if the bill goes through. I recognize that there needs to be change and the concern is real over the costs of health care to both the Commonwealth and the consumer. However, people living with disabilities, Veterans, and people with pre-existing conditions need to be protected and have access to affordable health care. Please take this into consideration when making your decision to vote about this health care bill.

Sincerely,

Tara Gervais, RN

[REDACTED]
Worcester, MA 01606

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Gambill [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Congress,

My 11-year-old son is on the autism spectrum and relies on Medicaid waivers to help cover his therapies, prescriptions, doctor's appointments and specialist treatments. Before receiving this waiver, I spent over \$12,000 per year on medical bills, in addition to paying the premium for our primary insurance through my work. I still maintain this primary insurance. His Medicaid waiver, which is for people with developmental disabilities, helps cover leftover fees and costs.

The waiver he currently has, called the Katie Beckett Waiver, acts as a stop-gap while he is on a waitlist for the longer term NOW/COMP waiver, which provides more comprehensive home- and community-based services, like home nursing, dental services for people over 21, ongoing adult therapy, support to hold a job and support to live independently. The Georgia Department of Community Health states that 12,000 Georgians with developmental or intellectual disabilities currently have this comprehensive waiver, and **there are over 9,000 Georgians like my son on the waitlist**. Some children have been on the waitlist for 15+ years before receiving these services!

The Graham-Cassidy Bill would cap Medicaid funding, which CNN estimates will result in 15.3% of disabled people losing coverage.

A block grant would lock states into historic spending patterns and limit Georgia's ability to respond to changing needs, like rising healthcare costs, population growth and the increasing number of children diagnosed with disabilities. This would force Georgia to either increase state funding to cover this gap, **CAP** the number of people with special needs receiving Medicaid or **CUT** the services provided.

The bill also would allow states to:

- raise premiums for those with pre-existing conditions, like autism, seizure disorders and breast cancer
- remove essential benefits, like mental health coverage, prenatal care, pediatric care and emergency services
- re-establish lifetime benefit caps, greatly affecting those with ongoing conditions

This bill hurts the most vulnerable amongst us—those who need our protection and don't have a safety net. It will force families to cut back on early interventions or remove later-in-life support for disabled adults. Please return to bipartisan and transparent decision-making, utilizing the expertise of doctors, hospitals, parents, governors and more--those who know first-hand the challenges, opportunities and, most importantly, the potential impacts of health care reforms.

Thank you,
Jill Gambill
(Mother of Cheyten Hernandez-Gambill)
[REDACTED]
Athens, GA 30606

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda Grace Hughes [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Comment

I'm an American citizen who relies on affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have OCD, and I am most able to support my community and represent my state and country well in school and work when I have my prescribed SNRI. Without it, I would be unable to contribute to our society in the same way I do now. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. **The ACA saved my life.**

Sincerely, Amanda Grace Hughes

Winter Park, Florida
32789

Amanda Grace
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice H <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is that I was born with a congenital heart defect and have required numerous procedures, operations, and medications and will continue to do so throughout my life. I have other complex medical needs that have come up over time, that are also "pre-existing". The current bill will allow states to determine whether people like me will be eligible for insurance or forced into exorbitant high risk pools. This is not a bill that will include people with pre existing conditions, and ensure us coverage.

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

Sincerely,

Alice Harrigan
Dorchester Massachusetts

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Felice Ling [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham Cassidy

I'm writing to voice my opposition to the Graham Cassidy bill. As an independent research consultant, I depend on the Healthcare marketplace for insurance.

Thank you,
Felice Ling
A citizen of Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tim Isdahl [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Hi,

As someone in graduate school who has had cancer in the past, I rely on protections from the ACA to allow me to continue to have insurance. As a student pharmacist, I have seen many people unable to afford their insurance and their medications. I'm baffled by the GOP proposal to stripping people like this of their ability to get Medicaid or private insurance by making it allowable to deny people for pre-existing conditions once again. It's immoral, unethical, and by CBO estimates passing Graham-Cassidy will lead to the deaths of 20-30 thousand people per year with the estimated 30 million people losing insurance. I say 'deaths of 20-30 thousand' -- it's deliberate action with full understanding of the consequences by Republicans, so it really is better classified as murder.

Also, single-payer and universal health care is the only way forward to treat all Americans.

-Timothy Isdahl
Plymouth, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joy Kestenbaum [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a sincere, bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, thereby ensuring that Americans receive affordable healthcare that covers preexisting conditions.

As the daughter of two World War II veterans and whose mother was a captain in the US Army Nurse Corps, healthcare has been my number one issue. Growing up, she was my role model. I am also aware of how important Medicaid is to so many Americans. Why can't our Senators work together? What do we as a country stand for? To rush this bill through is not American, in my mind. How can you even consider voting on such a bill without taking into consideration its tremendous impact on so many Americans people, while you all receive excellent coverage?

Joy Kestenbaum
New York, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Webber [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on access to quality, affordable health care. I oppose the Graham – Cassidy Healthcare Bill, my family would be substantially negatively impacted by this bill. We currently pay over \$30K a year in premiums for a good policy, not a great policy. \$30,000 a year, before anyone gets sick, needs to see the doctor, needs prescriptions, and I'm happy to do it. My husband has not one, but two heart conditions, that will make it practically impossible to afford health insurance if the mandate for pre-existing conditions is adjusted in any way. Allowing states to apply for a waiver for pre-existing conditions coverage would mean we would most likely not be able to afford health insurance for him, under any circumstances. Having health insurance has saved his life twice, when he needed procedures that would have bankrupted us, if not for insurance.

We are upper middle class, and pay federal and state income taxes in some of the highest brackets, as well as high real estate taxes. Think about the fact that if my husband cannot work, or is dead due to untreated health issues, the federal and state government lose all those taxes. Multiply that by thousands of families, and realize that there are severe consequences to people not having affordable health care in this country that go beyond just not being able to see the doctor.

Please, please do not let this bill pass. We need real health insurance, and Graham – Cassidy does NOT provide that!

Chris Webber
Hummel & Associates, LTD
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emilie Junge [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Emilie Junge
Subject: ACA AND THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

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

RE: ACA AND THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Dear Chairman Hatch and Member Wyden:

I am a criminal justice attorney and have seen first-hand the horrors of the opioid epidemic and resulting criminal prosecution of those with substance abuse problems. I know policemen, public officials, and many others who have lost their children to this epidemic, which last year took more lives than homicides, car accidents, or our recent wars, including Vietnam. I have also seen first-hand how people with substance use issues have been able to turn their lives around with help from Medicaid behavioral health treatment, resulting in less recidivism and less crime in general.

Please be aware that most states do not have robust treatment policies for this epidemic, whether it is through the use of Naloxone to reverse overdoses, or through medication-assisted treatment, which all the evidence shows is effective. For most people in most states, Medicaid is a lifeline and has only begun to scratch the surface of addressing the epidemic even in those states with Medicaid expansion. Any reduction, any obstacle to Medicaid treatment – especially by allowing states to go it alone – will allow this epidemic to continue to explode. I sincerely hope that none of you on the Committees have children or relatives that suffer from addiction. But if you do, please do what you can to make sure that this destructive bill that you are considering will not see the light of day.

Thank you,

Emilie Junge

Volunteer Criminal Justice Attorney and Health Care Advocate.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Grey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop trying to hurt American's.

We all know that Republican's care more about making money then the health of the American people. Just stop already-you have caused enough damage.
NO NO NO.

Amy Grey

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sherryamatenstein <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is having been hit by a car years ago that nearly decapitated my ankle. It is a chronic injury and I need ongoing care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Sherry Amatenstein, LCSW
Long Island City, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: TASC OPPOSES Graham-Cassidy Proposal

September 25, 2017

TO: Senate Committee on Finance
Rm. SD-219, Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 205110

SUBMITTED BY: Pamela F. Rodriguez, President & CEO
TASC, Inc. (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)
[REDACTED]

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I submit to the Senate Finance committee **TASC's strong opposition to the Graham/Cassidy/Heller/Johnson Amendment** to the Budget Reconciliation Act of 2017.

The opioid epidemic has had a devastating impact across the U.S., and Illinois is no exception. The Affordable Care Act (ACA), and the Medicaid expansion that accompanied it, has supported the provision of substance use treatment to the people of Illinois. Not only would the Graham-Cassidy amendment put Medicaid expansion in Illinois at risk, but the additional, broader changes proposed to the Medicaid system would hugely undercut and confound the work now underway to provide addiction treatment and prevent overdose deaths.

A vote in favor of this bill is a vote to reduce substance use disorder services (SUDs) at the very moment we can least afford it, as vast numbers of your constituents and other Americans would lose vital coverage. Healthcare economists Richard G. Frank and Sherry A. Glied, from Harvard University and New York University, respectively, estimate that 1.3 million people with serious mental illness and 2.8 million people with SUD—including 220,000 people with opioid disorders—could lose health coverage under ACA repeal. At least 965,000 Illinoisans would lose healthcare coverage by 2027.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would essentially repeal the ACA without replacing it, zeroing out block grants for Marketplace tax credits and Medicaid expansion, and making additional substantial cuts to Medicaid.

Further, allowing states to opt out of requirements to cover essential health benefits means that insurance companies could once again decide not to cover substance use and mental health treatment. That, combined with a provision that would allow annual and lifetime limits, means that even people with coverage may not be able to get sufficient (or any) addiction or mental health treatment.

Together, in recent years, we have made progress in addressing mental health and substance use disorders, and in fighting the opioid epidemic. However, we must not allow this progress to be thwarted, especially as the epidemic shows no signs of waning.

Medicaid plays a vital role in providing critical behavioral health services across Illinois and the U.S. The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) and the 21st Century Cures Act have boosted these efforts, but they pale in comparison to the contributions made by Medicaid. Neither Illinois' budget nor its communities can afford passage of this

We strongly urge you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill. Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions or be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Pamela F. Rodriguez | President & CEO
TASC, Inc. (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Find us on [Facebook](#) | Follow us on [Twitter](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dana Kellerman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject the Graham-Cassidy Act

September 25, 2017

Dana Kellerman
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6200

To whom it may concern:

I urge the committee members to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act. It is irresponsible of the Senate to consider voting on this bill without a full CBO score, both for its economic and human consequences.

As a citizen of Pennsylvania, I am certain that my state is in no way competent to take on the challenges that moving responsibility for healthcare from the federal government to the states will entail. My state has not even been able to fund its budget and our credit rating was just down graded. How precisely will our legislature be able to balance the needs of disabled children, the working poor and the elderly in nursing homes, if Medicaid block grants with per capita caps become a reality?

I purchase my health insurance on the individual marketplace and do not receive any subsidies. I am fortunate in that my insurance premiums have fallen by over 50% from pre ACA prices. I am angry that my premiums will likely skyrocket (based upon the CBO assessment of the BCRA) even though I am a healthy 52 years old without any pre-existing conditions. I am heartsick for my friends who have a 7 year child with Spina bifida. Per capita Medicaid caps are likely to severely limit Eli's quality of life and he will exceed any lifetime insurance caps long before he reaches adulthood. I know no one who will be better off under this bill.

Passing the Graham -Cassidy bill would be devastating to my state of Pennsylvania and to the entire country. I urge the committee to instead support bipartisan efforts stabilize the insurance markets and improve the Affordable Care Act.

Sincerely,
Dana Kellerman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: priti bansal [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 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.

Priti
Manalapan, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Freeman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: John Freeman
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy 2.0

Good morning Senate Finance Committee Members,

I'm writing to plead with you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. This bill is detrimental to people like me with preexisting conditions. All American's, including those with preexisting conditions, need good quality affordable healthcare. As a person with a preexisting condition, I'm required to take medicine daily and get labs frequently. Without access to quality affordable medical care, I will die. Please don't take away healthcare and keep the Affordable Care Act and Medicare in place. Funding for these programs must stay in place and should even be expanded. I beg of you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

John Freeman
Sacramento, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vijaya Ramesh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

Hello

Every US citizen 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.

Congress: Please work together as a team setting aside your ideological differences.

Sincerely,
Vijaya Ramesh (a concerned US citizen)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nicole Prevost [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Partisan politics shouldn't be the driving force behind this or any measure. Too many Americans will be adversely affected by this bill, and in fact many will die if they can't afford health care. To vote without a full CBO review is reckless and underhanded- and those who plan to vote Yes know it.

Vote this bill down!

Nicole Prevost
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Morganroth Gullette [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Cassidy-Graham bill will be a disaster for millions.

Please vote no.

It will not solve any of the problems of the Affordable Care Act.
It will deprive millions of rights they now have and want to protect.
It will weaken the health-care system of the country.
It will force old people living in nursing homes back into their children's homes, where they cannot receive appropriate care.
It will do the same for the disabled under 65.
It will anger the adult children who feel hopeless and betrayed..
It will anger the adult children enough to cause them to vote against you.

If you actually succeed in voting for this bad bill, it will never be forgotten by American history that you undid a good system, ACA, for a cruel and unnecessary repeal.

Thank you for listening,
Margaret

Resident Scholar, Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis
Ending Ageism, or How Not to Shoot Old People (August 2017)
<https://www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/ending-ageism-or-how-not-to-shoot-old-people/9780813589282>
Agewise: Fighting the New Ageism in America won an Eric Hoffer Book Award.
Aged by Culture selected as a Notable Book of the year by the *Christian Science Monitor*.
Declining to Decline chosen "best feminist book on American popular culture"

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Biederman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Submitting public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

Dear Legal Counsel on Graham-Cssidy hearing,

I am exceedingly concerned about JUST, ETHICAL quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with [Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, etc.] is:

That I am fortunate to have excellent healthcare presently but I am concerned about those that don't. To catch disease and health concerns early is key to a healthy populace.

I feel that the Republican party is incredibly ignorant on healthcare and that healthcare should be determined by Doctors, Nurses and those in the healthcare field and NOT by insurance agencies, Big Pharma, and people only out to make money and profit at the expense of others.

I am disgusted by political parties that do not represent ALL the people and I want "the most people to benefit at the least amount of harm".

I feel that our political system is so corrupt as to be a **health hazard** to the majority of American U.S. citizens and that this should be corrected.

Please keep Obama Care and work to improve it. Golden Rule - Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Platinum Rule - Do unto others as they would have You do unto them.

Doctors and nurses and those dealing with patients **should be the ones to determine what is needed**. NOT insurance agencies. Insurance agencies should NOT be determining protocol for patients!

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

Sincerely,

Sue Biederman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Swisher IA 52338

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Gmail [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Graham - Cassidy Bill

Quality, affordable healthcare is not only imperative to maintain basic health and prevent illness for a growing number of Americans but is also a key support to healthy American economy - you need a strong workforce in good health to maintain upward financial growth as a nation. Access to healthcare is increasingly challenging.

My entire family relies on the benefits offered through the ACA- and we pay taxes!

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

Sincerely,

Lisa Hargus
brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tim Grygera [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: [REDACTED] Racine, wi 53406

No on Graham Cassidy Bill

Tim Grygera
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: l.a. murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am against Graham-Cassidy because the bill increases costs and barriers to essential health care for millions of Americans.

Graham-Cassidy is a travesty. The process pursued by the authors and the Republican senators who support it is reprehensible.

Sincerely,
Laura Murphy
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gloria Philpott [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Personal comment on Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to plead with you to not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am scared about how this bill would affect my health care coverage and, by extension, my life.

In 2011, at the age of 37, I was diagnosed with stage 3b rectal cancer. I underwent 8 months of treatment, which cost a little more than half a million dollars. I also have bipolar disorder, for which I take prescription medications that keep it well-managed so that I am able to take care of my family and be a productive member of society.

From what I understand of the Graham-Cassidy bill, it could impact me personally in a very negative way. My understanding is that it removes federal protection for people with pre-existing conditions. While I am fortunate to currently have coverage through my husband's employer, I worry about what would happen if he should lose his job or die and I would have to purchase health insurance on my own and wonder whether I would even be able to afford coverage. I've also read that several patient groups are warning that this bill would open the door to annual and lifetime caps on coverage. Having already gone through a cancer battle, it is terrifying to think that, at a relatively young age, I could reach a lifetime cap on my health insurance. This is especially concerning because I have several other chronic conditions brought about as a consequence of the cancer and the treatment that I underwent. If I was no longer able to receive treatment for these conditions, my quality of life and my ability to contribute to society would be significantly lessened.

Another aspect that is concerning is the removal of the mandate that requires insurers to cover mental health services. Without continuing treatment, I would almost certainly cycle through periods of depression during which I wouldn't be able to work and pay taxes and otherwise contribute to my family.

I have read that there is a bipartisan Senate committee working on legislation to stabilize the Affordable Care Act. I strongly urge you to wait for this committee to complete their work and pass legislation that will benefit your constituents rather than passing legislation merely for the sake of repealing the Affordable Care Act.

Sincerely,

Gloria Philpott
Columbus, OH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Pires <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy yes

Please repeal the unACA. Do not replace it with single payer. Top down solutions will guarantee a continuation of culture wars, the imposition of political agendas on healthcare, lobbying to put profits for medical providers into the system, and an unsustainable need for funding. .

I would prefer a total repeal of the unACA. But returning the money to the states will allow innovation to meet the unique needs of different states while protecting the the treasury of the United States.

Thank you,
Mary Pires
[REDACTED]
Lexington, TX 78947
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Koffman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

To Whom It May Concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, I was able to receive treatment and medicine for my pre-existing conditions and foot surgery that I needed for several years that allowed me to function normally again.

Instead of dismantling the Affordable Care Act, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it.

Sincerely,

Katie Koffman
Raleigh, NC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Caryl Jones-Swahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Sir/Madam,
Many friends of ours 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,
Caryl Jones-Swahn
Hedgesville, WV

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Esha Gangolli [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Dear All,

I am deeply interested in healthcare, as someone who works to get cancer patients the best possible treatments they can have. I am alarmed and disturbed by the GOP effort to force through legislation that repeals the ACA, without a bipartisan Congressional effort to discuss the ramifications of the proposal. I urge the representatives of our nation to work together across party lines and think through the short term and long term consequences of any proposal, since any changes will impact not just our generation, but the generations that follow. We owe this to our children and grandchildren!

Sincerely,
Esha

--
Esha Gangolli, Ph.D.
Acton, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jean.marie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

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

I thankfully lived in Massachusetts in 2009 when the market crashed and my full-time temporary teaching position came to an end with the college suddenly in a job-freeze. I experienced first hand what it was like to be unemployed receiving excellent or shall i say, superior, health care. All of the U.S. should look towards their model. This all happened when I was in my late 50s, finding it harder to compete in an overly-saturated academic job market. At age 64, I've been on an adjunct salary ever since, barely making ends meet, and completely reliant on medicaid (unfortunately pre-existing conditions). On the one hand, I feel as if I'm nearly out of the woods with medicare on the near horizon, but fearful that it too will become compromised. From the stories that I hear, I'll still have to pay upwards to \$350 out of pocket for "subsidized plans", a luxury I cannot afford.

In Berlin to teach several years ago in an accident that ripped the toenail off of my big toe and landed me in the emergency room. Hospital charge? \$64 U.S.. dollars. In Berlin two years ago, hospitalized for 7 days with facial shingles. Hospital charge? \$1600.00 U.S. dollars. Impeccable care in both cases.

Why can't we figure this one out?

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

Sincerely,

Jean Marie Casbarian
Jackson Heights, New York

--

++

Jean Marie Casbarian
<http://www.jeanmariecasbarian.com>

Faculty, ICP-Bard and the International Center of Photography
New York, New York
<http://www.icp.org>

Faculty, Transart Institute
New York, Berlin, Mexico City
<http://www.transart.org>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dana Ullman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Without the ACA, i would have to make very difficult choices between my healthcare and rent, student loans, family planning. Before the ACA I paid almost a thousand dollars a month for health insurance. Just out of school, a freelancer, I had to prioritize paying back my student loan and health insurance over striving for my small business, planning a family and buying a house. When I had a bicycle accident in 2010 I had to pay out of pocket for all my healthcare expenses. I took up extra jobs and, for years, worked to pay everything back. The ACA has completely liberated me. I can now focus on other things because I have healthcare and I can afford it! Access to preventative care is essential and keeps costs down in the long run for all Americans. Healthcare is a human right. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Dana

Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marie Regan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill -

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I and my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family has children in it who have been born with what are now pre-existing conditions and one who saw diabetes conditions threaten his eyesight and feet while unemployed and without health care.

I ask you to vote in opposition of the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,
Marie Regan
San Mateo, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tracy Mernin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No

Dear US Senate,

There are so many reasons why this bill is wrong for Americans, but I will highlight two. First, sending responsibility for health care to individual states is a terrible idea. I currently live in MA, which luckily has great coverage (you know, that bill that Mitt Romney passed?), but what if my job transfers me to a state without similar coverage-one that doesn't cover the conditions I am currently managing (or any that pop up in the future)? What does this bill mean when it says 'adequate and affordable?' What if the closest care is a 2-hour drive? What if I don't have a car, or can't drive for some reason, and there is no public transportation? Is that adequate? So many variables in this, and so unfair to have your insurance coverage be depending on what state you live in, even more than it does now.

The second issue I'll highlight is the fact that this bill guts Medicaid, so you can pay for the tax cuts to wealthy Americans who don't need it. This piece is truly despicable. Taking healthcare away from the sickest and poorest Americans for any reason is unconscionable, but to do it so the billionaires can pay even less in taxes is just evil. Be better than that.

The final reason I'm asking for a 'no' vote is that the "process" this bill has gone through, or really lack of process, is terrifying. No bipartisan hearings, no CBO score, no real public discourse-for a bill that affects every single American, and has to do with 1/6 of the US economy. I understand that the GOP donors, like the Koch brothers, are furious and want this done before they open their wallets again. But is killing millions of Americans truly worth it?

I beg you to vote 'NO' on Graham-Cassidy. Work on a bipartisan improvement to the ACA. Please.

Sincerely,

Tracy Grenier-Mernin
Somerville, MA

PS-Puerto Rico needs help desperately. These are Americans whose island is decimated. They should be your #1 priority right now, just as relief for TX after Harvey.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Miffitt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Reader,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son was born with a pre-existing condition, and at age 2 has required regular healthcare and surgery from specialists. I feel like that we have good insurance and that his condition is manageable, but as a parent, I want the same level of access and care for every child. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kate Miffitt

State College, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Reiskin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments; Toal, Alison (Gardner)
Subject: Fwd: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Kristen Castor [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, Sep 24, 2017 at 10:09 PM
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
To: Julie Reiskin [REDACTED]

I can't get this to send. Can you?

- September 25, 2017
- Kristen Amy Castor
- [REDACTED]ueblo, Colorado 81008

Dear Congresspeople:

My name is Kristen Amy Castor. I was born at 7 months in 1954 when there were few supports for premature babies. My parents never thought of raising me any differently than my other siblings. My childhood years were punctuated with surgeries, therapy and bracing, but otherwise I was expected to compete without assistance. As I entered high school, I watched as my disabled friends were diverted into special schools because they needed too much help or too much time to keep up. Most of them had terminal illnesses. As I was getting ready for college, these friends were being placed in nursing homes.


Let me tell you what it's like when you live in a nursing home at state expense. You share a room about the size of a college dorm with someone you've never met before. You have a bed, nightstand; one or two drawers and a closet. You share a sink and a toilet. You get up when the nurse comes to get you up. You wear what they put on you. You eat what they put in front of you, you take a bath twice a week when there is someone to bathe you. You go to bed when there is someone to put you to bed. God forbid you should need help urinating or more. 11% of the population consists of young people. My friends were only 15 years of age. You don't go to a nursing home because you are old. You go there because you can't take care of yourself. That's what would be left if Graham Cassidy passes.

In 1971 and 1975, groups of young people revolted and insisted on the right to live in the community with the support they needed to get up, dressed, fed, and ready for the day. They began to lead more regular lives at far less the cost of nursing homes.

The final frontier is gainful employment. I have worked all my adult life at something. First, it was English as a Second Language, then freshmen composition. I endured 15 to 18 hour days working 3 part-time jobs a semester until my body failed me. It takes

Sent from my mobile device--please forgive brevity or typo's
Julie Reiskin NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US.....EVER

The best care coordination outcome is when a person gets what they need when they need it...no hoops to jump through-just action!

Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition is a member of 

Indivisible!!

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julia Liberman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham bill

Good morning-

I am emailing to urge senators to vote 'No' on the Cassidy-Graham bill. It will mean millions will lose insurance, those with preexisting conditions will be priced out of insurance, and our nation's disabled and elderly will become even more unable to access affordable care.

Thank you for your time,

Julia Liberman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Welby -MDH- [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

--
John Welby

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Baltimore, MD 21201
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kay Kirscht [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare repeal bill

I often wonder where I'd be if healthcare coverage had been different throughout my childhood. I was successfully treated for severe allergies and nasal issues...nothing that could kill, but something that could certainly deform (with the likelihood of hearing loss).

If I had to experience that - now - my family would be bankrupted, I would probably be forced to go without treatment, and my own future would be nipped before I'm out of the gate.

Say *No* to the Graham-Cassidy repeal.

NO law that could knowingly harm so many people should even be considered, much less adopted.

It would also help greatly if the bill's authors *knew* the extent of what they penned.
You are lawMAKERS, and healthcare is no place for haste.

Thank you for your attention.

Kay Kirscht
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Minneapolis, MN 55455
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steven Kai van Betten [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Congress,

Please do **not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill**. My community has researched the bill and we do not think it will help the American people get more affordable, quality health care. Its effect on peoples' lives who have pre-existing conditions would be potentially devastating. **I would like to see a bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

My message to all congressmen and women is that the American people want to see a true bi-partisan working through of an improvement of ACA, not a repeal.

Thank you for your consideration.
Steven van Betten
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Madison [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

As an older woman, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,
Linda Madison
Marietta, GA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shi Ikeda [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 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.

Shirelyn Ikeda
Waianae Hawaii

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Casey Koldewyn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Hello, I hope this email finds you well;

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare, and so do many of my closest friends. One, for example, would be dead without Obamacare, since he would have been kicked off his parents' healthcare and thus unable to afford the lifesaving heart surgery that enabled him to now work as a licensed social worker caring for some of the most vulnerable. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

This is not to say that Obamacare is perfect. I am fully aware that it needs work! However, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Casey Koldewyn
Utah
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jon Perkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I urge you not to pass Graham Cassidy and take health care away from millions.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Woodrich [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill - NO!!!!

PLEASE DO NOT VOTE FOR THIS BILL!!!!

We need healthcare for all at an affordable price voted on by the people in a bipartisan way.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Ilich <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health Bill

This bill is unacceptable! I will lose my health insurance if this bill passes. Please keep the ACA and change it for the better! The ACA is the only reason I have health insurance, since I have a preexisting condition, as do millions of other Americans. It's not unusual. If the rich and those employed by the government can access good health insurance/care, then everyone else should be able to. This is not hard. Everyone deserves to be able to go to the doctor, rich or poor, sick or healthy. Everyone knows this and to pass this bill simply because our current health care safety net was created by Obama is completely irresponsible and cruel to many millions of Americans. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joseph BRADY [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy Graham Bill

Thanks for requesting comments on this bill. I have a sister who is a senior citizen and depends on-Medicaid for her health care. She was widowed early in life, with 2 daughters to raise, she has worked very hard all her life, she is a great caring person but for various reason is in a situation where Medicaid provides her Health care. The fact that this bill reduces and eliminates a lot of Medicaid and Medicare benefits is very concerning and unacceptable to me. My wife has just retired and I retire within 6 months we will be depending on Medicare and Social Security. Again this unacceptable that you are reducing Medicare benefits through this bill. Will you be going after Social Security next? I heard on Morning Joe this morning that you are also eliminating and cutting Preventive care which will increase the overall long term cost of health care. How can you possibly justify this. John Mc Cain has also condemn you for the backroom partisan way in which the bill was crafted which is anti-Democratic and in my viewpoint anti-patriotic. This is why the popularity of Congress is horrible, and rightfully so in this case. This seems clearly just a way to fulfill a political promise at the cost of poor health and death to the American people. You should be ashamed of yourself. Go back and re-craft a bill that is non-partisan, and is done if full view of the American people that elected you and is in the best interest of Americans health.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maddy Meislin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition of a primary immunodeficiency. Because I work for a nonprofit and have student loans, healthcare is already expensive. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Madeline Meislin
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jim <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A Health-Care Story

I am a retired engineer with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and an M.E. in Environmental Engineering. My career has included several consulting jobs, usually involving Federal-government clients. I have numerous pre-existing conditions (I'm a cancer survivor) which have prevented me from getting good insurance on the private market, but my employer-sponsored insurance has been good. However, at the age of 63 1/2, I was unexpectedly laid off, and have been unable to find work since. When my COBRA ran out, I had to purchase a cheap plan that covered none of my real medical needs. I was putting off treatments and doctor visits until I could get insurance through the Marketplace. Luckily, I didn't experience a recurrence of my pre-existing conditions during this time, and I was able to "cut a deal" with the pharmacy which, along with my savings, allowed me to afford my medications.

In early 2014, thanks to the Affordable Care Act, I was able to purchase a policy that my doctors accept, and that helps me pay for the medications I need. Now I can keep my chronic conditions under control, and with a premium less than my COBRA. The Affordable Care Act has benefited me, saved me money, and allowed me to have a policy with my own doctors and get the treatments I need. The following year, I reached age 65, which qualified me for Medicare.

Not everyone is so lucky! There are millions of Americans who are too young to qualify for Medicare, or don't meet the qualifications for Medicaid, or are simply too sick to work and be able to afford insurance premiums.

The ACA isn't perfect, but the various bills which have put forth by Congress in 2017 would NOT fix the ACA. They would replace it with a system which would be inferior, and less humane, than we had in the pre-ACA days.

Sincerely,

Jim Nelson

[REDACTED]
Oak Ridge, TN
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsay Willett [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Chamber Members,

I am writing to request that you not support the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. This bill is wrong. It is wrong for America, it is wrong for Americans, and it goes against the basic principles on which this country was founded. Not only does it strip access to healthcare from millions of Americans who need it the most, it also rewards intransigence. The states who chose to ignore the Medicaid expansion will benefit at the expense of the states that chose to follow the rule of law and comply with the ACA.

This bill, while on the surface appearing to be neutral, will cause chaos if enacted. There is nothing in the bill to prevent states from revoking the protections against being discriminated against for pre-existing conditions. There is nothing in the bill that will prevent states from rolling back any other of the ACA provisions that benefit people instead of lobbyists. The proposed block grants to the states will create a constant fight over money in Congress that will ultimately prevent American citizens from accessing healthcare. That surely flies in the face of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," does it not? If you can't see a doctor to treat your illnesses, chronic or otherwise, how are you free? How can you pursue what makes you happy? How can you live?

I look forward to seeing you come down on the right side of history. The whole nation is counting on you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Beth Willett, Esq.
Bensalem, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Tschida [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill for these (and many other) reasons:

- A large majority of Americans oppose it
- Both insurers and healthcare providers oppose it
- State Medicaid directors oppose it
- It would be catastrophic for many states' budgets
- Protections for people with pre-existing conditions will undeniably be weakened or altogether dismantled
- There will be no assessment from the CBO, which should be mandatory for any legislation of this significance
- There is virtually no public input in the form of hearings, as would be typical for a bill like this, and the usual process of committee debate and markup has been skipped
- The attempt to "buy off" senators through increased funding for certain states is absolutely repugnant.

I implore all Committee members, and Congress as a whole, to oppose this measure and to vote "no" if it comes to a vote.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Paul Tschida
Placerville, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Mangan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

It is beyond comprehension how Republicans can be so deceitful! How anyone claiming to represent the interests of the American people can lie so blatantly about the Graham-Cassidy bill and its affect on health care is just reprehensible. I still have faith that the people will defeat the special interests and at least a few of our leaders will show enough character to vote no on this bill. For once, stand up for justice over ideology. Of course, that would require working with the other party to create the best health care we can in the wealthiest country in the world, and giving our people a renewed belief that democracy can work for the common good, and not just for the ideologically driven self interest of the few. Wouldn't you prefer that as a legacy for your tenure in office? [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Jo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH Comment

As an employee of an independent living center, I work with many individuals with disabilities who rely on Medicaid to maintain their independence. The cuts to Medicaid in the Graham-Cassidy proposal will seriously impact their ability to maintain the services they need to be independent. If they lose some of those services, the result may be that they will be forced to enter a nursing home which will even in the short term cost much more money than what you hope to save by making these cuts. I am a Republican, but I ask you not to permit this legislation to pass.

Consider the following:

People with disabilities rely on Medicaid, and the per capita caps and cuts included in Graham-Cassidy will jeopardize our health, threaten our independence, and put lives at risk.

The Medicaid cuts in Graham-Cassidy will limit access to home and community-based services, which will result in more disabled people and older adults being forced into costly institutions.

Allowing states to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions will make coverage unaffordable for many - and many of those are people with disabilities.

Feel free to contact me for more input.

Thank you,

Amy Jo DeKoeyer
Student Transition and Deaf Services Coordinator

Finger Lakes Independence Center

[REDACTED]
Ithaca NY 14850
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy Sherman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill and I am fortunate enough to NOT have a pre-existing condition and to be able to afford health care. I am writing to urge you to work on a bipartisan congressional effort to improve ACA and not repeal it. Millions of Americans would suffer under repeal—please don't look as money and incentives to sway votes to repeal—lives are at stake.

Betsy Sherman
Scottsdale, Arizona

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Freeman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: No Graham-Cassidy 2.0 (corrections)

Good morning Senate Finance Committee Members,

I'm writing to plead with you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. This bill is detrimental to people like me with preexisting conditions. All American's, including those with preexisting conditions, need good quality affordable healthcare. As a person with a preexisting condition, I'm required to take medicine daily and get labs frequently. Without access to quality affordable medical care, I will die. Please don't take away healthcare and keep the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid in place. Funding for these programs must stay in place and should even be expanded. I beg of you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

John Freeman
Sacramento, CA

From: John Freeman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:18:21 AM
To: gchcomments@finance.senate.gov
Cc: John Freeman
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy 2.0

Good morning Senate Finance Committee Members,

I'm writing to plead with you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. This bill is detrimental to people like me with preexisting conditions. All American's, including those with preexisting conditions, need good quality affordable healthcare. As a person with a preexisting condition, I'm required to take medicine daily and get labs frequently. Without access to quality affordable medical care, I will die. Please don't take away healthcare and keep the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid in place. Funding for these programs must stay in place and should even be expanded. I beg of you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

John Freeman
Sacramento, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanna Shampine [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote again the Graham-Cassidy bill

The Graham-Cassidy bill would worsen health insurance. Please vote against the bill.
Also, the Republicans and Democrats need to work together to improve the Affordable Care Act.
I live in Richardson, TX, (75080) and am a voter.
Joanna Shampine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy 2 P.M. MONDAY, SEPT. 25.

Graham-Cassidy 2 P.M. MONDAY, SEPT. 25.

Mary Tossell
[REDACTED]

Winter Haven, FL 33884

This bill is dangerous to the health of millions of Americans.

Under this proposal, up to 32 million people could lose coverage by 2027, states will be saddled with massive costs, and key consumer protections will be rolled back.

Undercut protections for people with pre-existing conditions by allowing states to waive the ACA's prohibition on charging people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums as well as its essential health benefit requirements. This means some consumers would not be able to get critical services like maternity care and substance use treatment, or afford coverage at all.

WE NEED UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE FOR ALL LIKE OTHER WESTERN DEMOCRACIES!

REPUBLICANS DONT CARE THEY ARE GREEDY

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THIS BILL TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE WITH PREEXISTING CONDITIONS IS A LIE, ITS DECEITFUL AND CRUEL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas VanInwagen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass this bill

Hello

I have a son with TBI from a car accident in 1989 when he just turned 19 years old. He was an adult and qualified for very little. If I put him in a care facility it would cost the government 10 times what it cost for me to care for him at my home and the level of care would be far less. This bill would endanger his life and bankrupt my family. It would also cost the government far more unless you just need him to die. I know this bill is not about health care and all about giving tax cuts. The election is coming.

Thomas Van Inwagen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Gentry-reynolds [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO for Graham-Cassidy plan

Dear Senators,

I urge to vote **NO** to the most recent plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act. This most recent version to repeal many of the ACA's benefits will hurt American most needing care.

The Democrats and Republicans need to sit down to work together to improve and refine the ACA, not just choose to repeal it for political reasons. This decision should be about what's best for the health of all Americans.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephanie Gentry-Reynolds

[REDACTED]
Palmyra, VA 22963

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vivian Anemoyanis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve not repeal the ACA

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

Sincerely,
Vivian Anemoyanis, Ph.D
Southold, New York

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Brintlinger [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

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

I remember when a bill was signed in Wisconsin that mandated insurance companies to pay for autism treatment and services, my son was two years old, and we did not know he was autistic at the time; I sat down on the ottoman and thought wow, this is good.

I remember trying to justify my son's behavior during his diagnostic visit at UW with Dr. Iyama. She went through a list of things she saw, and after each one said, "that's not normal." Micah had just turned three.

I remember weeks later seeing a commercial on TV that said 1 in 111, and noticing the symbol of a puzzle piece, a symbol that remains a part of our families identity, a symbol of autism. This was when I cried and truly mourned, saying to myself, too many, there are too many families affected. After an effort to try to cap that number through tightening the diagnostic criteria, the statistic is now 1 in 68.

I remember hearing that the CDC could only account 1/3 of the increase of autism diagnoses to an increase in awareness. The other 2/3's increase is still waiting for an explanation.

I remember learning that there was a two and a half year wait for the waiver list after my son qualified for a slot.

I remember when my second son was diagnosed, and the child psychologist asked me if I was surprised. I was.

I remember our first IEP meeting at the school, and feeling truly supported by our community.

I remember my daughter being born, and much of early childhood accompanying her brothers in occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech as well as growing up in house of people coming and going to help her brothers gain language and life skills through ABA in-home therapy. She is a neuro-typical kid.

I remember my husband's employer saying not to worry about the additional costs for autism treatment, that as a private insurance holder, they would cover it. This is extremely rare and not typical. It cost the company about \$120,000 for each child per year during

that time of intensive services. Again, this is the exception of privately funded insurance holders to cover all costs or any costs at all for autism related services.

I remember as of last year, learning that Wisconsin's Medicaid program was now covering copayments, coinsurance costs, and deductibles. This was significant for lessening the financial burden of families who often have high amounts to pay out of pocket after insurance coverage.


I remember thinking this is progress. Please keep up the progress and advocate for those whose voice needs to be heard by voting in a way that benefits this community, and continue to work toward progress, so that every child with autism can say, as my 8 year old son Fin said this recently, "I don't need to go there anymore because I can talk well, and control my body." Meaning his ABA therapy clinic he graduated from two years ago. Micah is now 10 and continues to receive services as he gains new skills, and language.

Medicaid funded case management has provided us with a safety assessment when my son left our house unattended, respite so my husband and I can go out and connect knowing our child is safe with a trained provider, a modified chair for our table so Micah can stay seated while he eats due to low muscle tone and regulation, an iPad and communication app he uses for communication throughout his day, setting up parent coaching to help us with simple daily life transitions and routines in bedtime, meals, school and positive behavior, diapers and wipes for his incontinence issues, and keeping us connected with inclusive community events and supports that are happening in our area, all while providing funding to allow children to begin ABA, speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy and other essential services at an early age to positively benefit their development and provide the best outcome for their future.

Please remember our family, and the many others that have benefited from our good state and country's policies that support Medicaid to help those who have needs that go beyond our own.

With sincerity and compassion,

Kathryn Brintlinger


Cross Plains, Wisconsin 53528

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Garcia [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health bill

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill. It is time for good, affordable healthcare for every person in the USA.

Mari Anne Garcia
Julian, CA 92036

--

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kori Heavner [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care saves lives

I often say to my colleague when we discuss health care, that the best health care available is none; by the time I need health care intervention, a less than best case scenario already exists. Ideally, we would all spend our lives perfectly healthy and never need to rely on health care; so it makes no sense to make the situation worse by increasing the costs and hurdles to get access to care.

1) I was healthy and barely needed health care throughout my youth. When I was 28, I met a young man and we decided to get married; we were both in the middle of job changes at the time, and I became pregnant. My employer changed the terms of my employment so that I could participate in their health care plan. Thanks to the health care reforms of the 1990s, my pregnancy was not considered a pre-existing condition. After a healthy uneventful pregnancy and delivery, I hemorrhaged heavily and required medical interventions to save my life.

2) A few years later, after continued good health for me and my family, my son's child care provider began to raise concerns about the way he was walking; he kept limping. Over the next two years, through some changing employment circumstances, I worked with our primary care doctor. At times, we had private employer-provided health insurance. Sometimes, my child was covered by the state children's health insurance program. To our great fortune, he was eligible for Medicaid at the point that we saw specialists and moved to a diagnosis. Over the course of two weeks, my son saw eight different medical specialists and had two surgical interventions. I received the news that he had a chronic condition which could cause blindness and permanent physical disability, but with treatment might instead go into remission without any permanent physical damage.

During this time, and over the next few months, a medicaid case worker helped me to identify coverage that would be useful, such as the possibility of support for travel to doctor visits. I had the luxury to focus on working with the medical providers to learn about and make decisions about the best treatment options for my son; I did not have to spend my time worrying about the price of specialist copays, the tradeoffs between cost and outcome (because that information was available up front), or denial of service (again, that was clear at the point of recommendation).

After several months, my son was no longer covered under medicaid; he moved back to private insurance. My providers and I often do not know until after claims are submitted what will be covered; at one point I was required to use 3 different pharmacies to fill my son's prescriptions in order for the insurance to process them. I have not during this time had guidance from the insurance company about benefits that I am not accessing which might be available.

At this point, my son is in medicated remission; we continue to see multiple specialists on an ongoing basis, but he still has no permanent physical disabilities limiting his participation in school and society.

What will happen to him if he becomes eligible to a lifetime maximum on care?
What will happen to him if he is unable to obtain health insurance due to the cost of premiums required to cover his pre-existing condition?

The answer is, he will most likely lose access to treatment; no longer be in remission; and become physically disabled. He may become unable to work or participate in his community.

We don't want to go to the doctor; we would rather be healthy and spend out time and energy on other things.

Please require all Americans to have health insurance, require preexisting conditions to be covered, remove lifetime limits on health care, and require insurance companies to standardize their coding, services to customers, and coverage, so that patients and their doctors can address medical needs in a transparent environment.

Kori Heavner

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alia McCants [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern:

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

Our family could not afford health care without the ACA. Any repeal will make our lives worse, especially one done in such a partisan fashion. Is this what we've come to?

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

Best,

Alia McCants

White Plains, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

I am writing today because my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare and, because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Under the definition of "pre-existing conditions", I apparently have a few of them (mild depression, past eating disorder). This bill would leave millions of Americans like myself at the mercy of the insurance companies who could choose to not provide insurance--or charge me more--simply for being, well, human. This bill is CRUEL, DANGEROUS, AND WRONG FOR AMERICA.

I would like to see a true, bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, NOT repeal it. Improvement means providing MORE coverage and making it MORE affordable.

Sincerely,

Genevieve Baer

Boulder, CO

--

Genevieve Baer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DaMarkus James [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.

DaMarkus James
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Fountain, Colorado 80817

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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jackie v paris
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

redstone co, Colorado 81623

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karin Evans [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to repealing the ACA

I am firmly opposed to any repeal of the ACA, unless the replacement legislation ensures universal, affordable health coverage, including all the basic guarantees of the ACA.

In my extended family, we are grieving the loss of a loving father and grandfather who died far too young from complications associated with Juvenile Diabetes. Larry was a blue-collar worker who lived near Muncie, Indiana. He had long-term employment for much of his life in a department store company. He never made a lot of money, but he was able to provide for his family. After his children were grown, he and his wife fell on hard times after Larry's company downsized and laid him off. He had a series of jobs that were not always full time and did not always offer health coverage that a diabetic adult needed. So, for some periods of his later life, as he was aging and in MORE critical need of consistent access to treatment and medications, he could not have these, given his precarious employment and financial situation.

Larry's passing at the age of 62 deprives his wife, children, and grandchildren of many years of his loving companionship and support. There was no need for this intelligent and able man to die so young. Simply put -- if the United States, and the state of Indiana, had made basic health care, including preventive care, universally available, Larry would still be with us, and very likely he would have good years of life to look forward to.

Instead, he is dead.

Senators, I implore you to stop this last craven attempt to repeal the ACA. Go to work with Democrats and FIX the ACA. Make the coverage broader and more affordable. Make the United States a place where people like Larry can go to the doctor, get medications, and live longer, healthier, and more productive lives.

Thank you.

Karin Evans
Forest Park, IL 60130

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Kathryn Rose
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Denver, Colorado 80205

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Garner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health-Care Bill

Good afternoon. I'm writing you today to express my vehement opposition to the GCHB proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy. This bill would leave millions of Americans without affordable access to healthcare. Furthermore, it disproportionately targets women, who, by virtue of having ovaries, become a 'pre-existing' condition. It wipes out all protections for people who have been sick, may get sick, or who have children who have been sick. It removes protections for the disabled. I cannot fathom why the Republican party would champion a bill that will do such harm to the constituents they claim to represent.

I put forward as an example: my sister is a marathon runner and has completed the Boston Marathon numerous times. My nephew, her beautiful, funny, amazing son, was born prematurely through no fault of my sister or her child. The GCHB would allow insurance companies to deny coverage (or charge more money) to my sister - despite the fact that she and her son are some of the healthiest people I know. Where is the 'compassion' in this? In what world is this right?

Furthermore, if the GCHB is such a great deal for Americans, why are our senators and representatives exempt from it? Why would a special deal be made with Alaska allowing them to keep the ACA? If it's truly such a wonderful plan, then I encourage the members of congress to include in the bill, a provision that subjects them to the same healthcare system (at the same costs, and with the same restrictions) as their constituents.

The ACA isn't perfect, but it is a vast improvement on the healthcare systems that were in place before it and light-years ahead of what the GCHB offers. By working together, in a bi-partisan manner, the shortcomings of the ACA can be fixed in a way that's affordable and, more importantly, humane.

Please do not put the GCHB bill forward. This is truly a bad bill. It is inhumane. It is un-American. For the sake of all Americans, do the right thing and fix the ACA.

Jennifer B. Garner
Seattle, Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn Kirk [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SFC Hearing for the Record on Monday - Cassidy Graham will make my children orphans.

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

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Dawn Kirk
[REDACTED]

Loveland, CO 80537

Dead children, dead veterans, dead cancer survivors, dead babies, dead people with treatable diseases, dead mothers, dead fathers, dead grandparents, dead daughters, dead sons, dead people who have accidents....like my brother, who died at 24 years old because he had just started a new job and didn't have insurance. Scott died when he should have lived because he was denied healthcare because he didn't have insurance. My brother was making a move to get a "real" job and stop working 5 part time jobs. He was a strong, kind, young leader who would be doing great things today if only he had insurance when he crashed his motorcycle because of a mechanical failure. My children never met their uncle and that is a great tragedy.

I am the mother of 4 children: ages 9 to 19. Two of my children have learning disabilities and work hard to be successful in school despite the challenges they face. My husband is a Navy veteran who served in Desert Shield, and 2 years ago he was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer that is from his time in the service. Let me repeat that....my husband has terminal cancer from serving our country in the Navy. Miraculously, through a very tough road, my husband's brain cancer is in remission and there is an 85% chance that he has been cured. Cancer diagnoses are terrifying and the costs associated with his care were daunting. In order to save his life, my husband's surgery had to be done out of state. Luckily, UCSF and the amazing brain surgeons there accepted our insurance because brain surgery cost over \$500,000. We have family in San Jose and generous friends created a Go Fund Me account to pay for our travel expenses. Another blessing is that his cancer was found when ACA was in full effect so we didn't have to worry about lifetime maximums, which he would have exceeded inside six months before ACA, or pre-existing conditions. While our out of pocket costs were challenging I am fortunate to have a great job with great benefits, which helped to ensure coverage even as my husband could no longer work through 30 daily treatments of radiation, and 14 months of chemotherapy.

However, even with great benefits and a full complement of resources to navigate the process, as well as my personal background with medical billing, I had to fight for my husband's life because our insurance carrier has teams of people dedicated to denying expensive treatments for any excuse they could find. It is only because of a desperate Facebook post I made in December of 2015 that my husband received chemotherapy treatment at all. Two lawyers dedicated multiple 10 hour days on our behalf working the denial from an ethical, legal, and every available angle to no avail. But a Facebook shaming triggered the insurance company's social media team of 5 people to get an approval within hours.

Thankfully, my husband's treatment has been a success and the care he received saved his life. I write this letter today also to represent my husband and other veteran families who face medical challenges from their service to their country.

I wish my story ended here, but sadly, it does not. On Inauguration Day, Trump signed an Executive Order to end ACA and the GOP in both the House and Senate have worked multiple bills that could kill my husband. In order to ensure that he stays cancer free he must have expensive MRIs on a regular basis for the rest of his life and he continues to need ongoing care to manage and treat side effects from brain radiation and an incredibly long chemotherapy cycle. So I

immediately adapted my advocacy for my husband and my children to include political advocacy. I speak out, stand up, partner, and fight for my family's medical needs. Then the House Bill was passed and the details in that bill made it clear that my life was in immediate jeopardy. See, while I seem like a normal, relatively healthy 42 year old mother I have had a lifetime of autoimmune diseases that have wrecked havoc on my body. Today, I take 23 pills a day and manage my diseases with lifestyle changes, supplemental treatment, and serious stress management, mind, body, spirit techniques. Most people who know me knew nothing of my diseases prior to the passage of AHCA because outside of an occasional flair up or the higher than average amount of surgeries I have had, I am a fully functional member of society. In fact, I have worked in public safety for 16 years. In my career, I have played a key role in catching the Boston Marathon Bomber, developing 9-1-1 solutions that save lives every single day, and creating nationwide 9-1-1 networks that were the foundation for supporting alternative technologies. Today, my work focuses on building leaders who will continue to make 9-1-1 work, leaders who run suicide prevention hotlines, leaders that build and support technology that save lives every day. However, without pre-existing condition coverage and lifetime maximums back in play with the Graham-Cassidy bill my life is in immediate risk. My medications are expensive and I will only live a few weeks without them. Additionally, I require more doctors visits, ER and hospital visits, and surgeries than the average woman my age. With good healthcare, I am able to recover quickly when my health is an issue and get back to the task of saving lives. With Graham-Cassidy, I will die quickly, my husband's health is at greater risk without my support and that means that our 4 children will be orphaned.

This is why I am passionate about this. I am proactively using my dying breath to fight for those of you who don't even know how this effects you and your loved ones. I want to live in a world where we cure people, where we treat people, where we comfort people, where we heal people, where we recognize the human right to healthcare, and our constitutional right to life. We talk about life being priceless but actually life is cheap here in America.

Sincerely,

Dawn Kirk

--Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Doug Dunkle [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.

Doug Dunkle

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Black Hawk, Colorado 80422

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marvin J Ward [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.

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Marvin J Ward
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Easthampton, Colorado 01027-6102

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Mary Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hotchkiss, Colorado 81419

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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H L Gingrass
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Denver, CO, Colorado 80212

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Retze [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am deeply disturbed that the Senate is even considering this bill, let alone, trying to shove it down our throats! And why? So the GOP can get their \$400M payout from the Koch brothers? For that the Republicans are willing to throw 32 million people off of health care insurance? Making everyone but the top 1% poor?

Let me tell you a little story. My brother was born in 1960 at NAS Millington, TN. We don't know who actually delivered him because my mother rendered unconscious for his birth. But we know that the doctor who claimed to have delivered him was not present. There were witnesses that saw him at a party at the Officers Club that night. My brother's skull was crushed during a forceps delivery. His medical records were missing when my mother took him back to the same hospital for his 6 weeks check up. Her medical records showed that she'd given birth but didn't mention whether it was a girl or boy, whether it lived or died. Because of the damage that was done, he is non-verbal. His functional level is that of about an 18 month old. He didn't learn to walk until he was 13. He requires 24x7 supervision because if the house caught fire, he wouldn't know that he needs to get out.

I am his guardian! I depend on Medicaid to help pay for his medical bills and to provide in-home care while I work. No, I won't institutionalize him. We were forced by Wisconsin and Texas to do that and he was sexually assaulted both times!

I am LIVID that Republicans was to take money away from healthcare to pay for tax cuts for the top 1% and to create a huge military budget. In my 58 years, I can't remember a time when we WEREN'T at war!

Enough is enough! Either our representatives start actually representing what the majority of their constituents want or they will be unemployed as soon as possible!!

The Resistance is sick of the games being played in Washington and we will fight back!

Lori Retzer
Aurora, CO 80014

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Pucak [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Carol Pucak
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Carbondale, Colorado 81623

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Hartman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My statement to be entered into the record for SFC hearing on Monday

Employer-based health insurance served me well

In 1979, I was diagnosed with MS. I was 23. I had good health insurance through my husband's employer that gave me access to first-rate care. I had my first child in 1989, and second in 1990. I had no complications; both babies were healthy. My out-of-pocket cost was zero dollars. In 1994, at age 38, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Again, good health insurance allowed me the best and most appropriate treatment and follow-up.

Losing health insurance after the financial crash

In 2009, after the financial crisis of 2007-2008, my husband's employer closed the business and we lost our health insurance. Thanks to President Obama and ARRA, we received 11 months of COBRA to find a new insurer. Being self-employed, I applied for individual coverage from Aetna, the carrier that had insured us for two decades through my husband's employer. I was rejected. Two other big-name commercial insurers rejected my application due to my preexisting condition of MS. At the end of 2009, I joined Colorado's high risk pool for the year 2010. Premium, deductible and co-pays were astronomical. Coverage was minimal, with an annual maximum coverage of \$500,000. Had I suffered a catastrophic event, we'd have suffered a financial bankruptcy.

At last, Obamacare!

In 2013, overflowing with joy, I signed up for PPACA on the Colorado exchange. My coverage through "Obamacare," though not perfect, was an improvement over the high risk pool-- an affordable premium with a flat rate for primary care, another flat rate for specialists, included a well visit at no cost to me, a much-welcomed maximum out of pocket annual spend, no annual or lifetime limits, and more. In short, the ACA was something I could base my annual budgeting around and count on to meet my needs for the foreseeable future. And I didn't have to worry about being rejected for my preexisting condition.

Partisan politics caused decline of Obamacare

The ACA was meant to be adjusted over time as some parts performed well and others did not. That never happened. From the start, the GOP-controlled congress rejected outright every attempt by Democrats to fix strained or broken parts of the system. As a result, my 2017 premium is high, deductible is high, no more maximum out of pocket spend, outrageously high cost for pharmaceuticals.

Conclusion

The Republican's relentless intention to kill the ACA, "Obamacare," has endangered the program and the lives of millions of people it serves. I lose sleep with each GOP "repeal and replace" bill, worrying that 2017 will be my last year of health insurance if insurers are again able to discriminate against people with preexisting conditions. I plan to reach age 65 and will be relieved to enroll in Medicare if the program survives.

Thank you.

Lisa Hartman
[REDACTED]

Denver, CO 80210

Lisa Hartman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: s peirce [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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s peirce

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

lyons, Colorado 80540

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Shannon Baim [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Comments

This bill has been given a thumbs down by all the important organizations representing doctors, nurses, healthcare, hospitals, insurance companies, and advocates for people needing help. That alone should be a clue as to its unsuitability. How could anyone think that the various experts in that field--which sometimes are at odds with each other, could agree on this and be wrong about it?

My sister has paid into the system all her life, needs healthcare, and would be excluded due to pre-existing conditions. She continued to contribute to her community through volunteerism. She should not be left behind, nor should the other millions that would be forced to give up their insurance.

The Affordable Healthcare Act can use some fixing. But start with the foundation that has been laid, and please stop trying to 'Repeal and Replace'. This unhealthy obsession with undoing anything Obama did would be considered a pre-existing condition, but this one you can fix for free.

And might I suggest that if you first rein in the outrageous drug prices, healthcare would be a lot easier to fix. I am currently getting medicine in Canada for \$70 that would cost me \$350 here at home! Exact same thing.

Sincerely,
Mary Shannon Baim

[REDACTED]
Crested Butte, CO 81224

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: otto VanGeet [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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otto VanGeet
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Idaho Spring, Colorado 80452

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Loosemore [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health bill

Dear Senators,

I'm writing to ask you to vote against or withdraw the Graham-Cassidy health bill and to instead work towards bipartisan, incremental improvements to the Affordable Care Act.

Two things bother me the most about the current situation.

(1) The loss of the ACA's consumer protections -- guaranteed coverage for pre-existing conditions, the guarantee of coverage for "essential health benefits", the ban on lifetime caps -- affect me personally. I'm a cancer survivor and I've already been told an organ transplant and a knee replacement are probably in my future, for instance. Will I have to pay cash for my future medical needs? Do you expect people who don't have money set aside already to simply shut up and die quietly if insurance won't cover them when they need life-saving surgery?

(2) All of the recent Republican bills seem to be intent on de-funding Medicaid without proposing any alternative way to pay for the things it covers, which include almost half of all births and 2/3 of all nursing home care. My 94-year-old mother's nursing home expenses are currently paid for by Medicaid. While I could conceivably pick up her tab, that would likely leave me destitute in old age instead. The way I see it, people of my generation have paid taxes for 40 years to subsidize Medicaid for the poor, handicapped, and elderly, and it doesn't seem right that to yank out the "safety net" after we've already invested so much to provide it.

Regarding the idea of devolving health care policy to the states generally, let me say that discarding our current national health insurance infrastructure and replacing it with 50 different and incompatible sets of state regulations does not seem to me like a way to make the healthcare industry more efficient or reduce costs to consumers. I recall that it took considerable time and effort to set up the ACA exchanges and consumer-facing web sites, and now this bill would require all 50 states to do something equivalent in less than 2 years with no funding to help during the transition. Inevitably, those inefficiencies would result in higher taxes. Plus insurers and health care providers would also face major changes to their IT and billing systems, and no doubt pass those costs on to consumers as well. On top of that, during the 2-year transition period, I would expect insurers to continue to flee the ACA marketplaces due to the lack of legislation to guarantee continuance of the ACA subsidies during that period. Doctors, hospitals, insurance industry representatives, and everyone else involved in the the health care business have been united in saying that this bill would be a disaster.

As long as both the Republicans and Democrats keep promoting their own partisan healthcare bills and seeking aggressively to un-do the policies of the other party, people like me are caught in the middle, unsure of how we can plan or budget for our future medical needs as we head towards retirement. Being jerked around by both parties in this way is an incredibly stressful way for anyone who already has serious medical problems to live. This is why I beg you to consider a bipartisan solution. The ACA is not perfect, but it's what we have now and can be improved incrementally with far less disruption to both patients and the industry than a drastic attempt to rewrite the entire national policy.

-Sandra J Loosemore, PhD
Colorado Springs, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

THERE HAS BEEN A CORPORATE TAX BREAK IN EVERY VERSION OF TRUMPCARE! FROM THE VERY FIRST ONE, WHEN RYAN WAS PLANNING A CELEBRATION WITH BIG CORPORATE BENEFICIARIES BEFORE IS FAILED TO EVERY OTHER VERSION WE ARE NOT STUPID! THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BIG PART OF REPLACEMENT OF THE ACA! DON'T LET IT HAPPEN! WE ARE TIRED OF THE HANDOUTS TO CORPORATIONS AND TIRED OF TRUMP PROFITING FROM ALL OF THESE ACTIONS! A BIG TAX BREAK WOULD BENEFIT TRUMP IN A HUGE WAY!

Maggie Schafer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Boulder, Colorado 80301

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Immich [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

Dear Representatives,

I am writing in opposition of the Graham-Cassidy "health care" bill. My family, along with so many families, relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this need, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My story with healthcare is tied to my niece, who was born after a stroke in the womb. She has developmental delays at even at five years old, has the cognitive abilities of a one year old. She often is in the hospital fighting for her life, she is severely underweight and has a team of doctors who care about her well being. My brother-in-law and his wife would not be able to provide this level of care without Medicare helping subsidize the costs. The Graham-Cassidy bill would put the burden of her healthcare bills totally on their lap, a price they cannot afford. Her quality of life will decrease and there is a real possibility that she will suffer long term detrimental effects, or even death, due to less care, at a higher cost.

I would love to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA. If we could do this in my lifetime or my children's lifetime, I feel like we'd be a successful country. However, repealing the ACA is not a step in that directly.

Please consider opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Immich
Boulder, Colorado

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Dorothy Sanchez
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Salida, Colorado 81201

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Allyson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Like most Americans, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

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

As a person who is both self-employed and living with manageable asthma, my ability to maintain coverage would be jeopardized as asthma is considered a pre-existing condition.

My mother, who has had cancer, could lose her insurance.

My father, who has had heart surgery, could lose his insurance.

We are all hard-working citizens who've always maintained employment, paid our taxes and never requested financial assistance from the government. Repealing the ACA would leave us abandoned by our elected officials and at risk of financial and personal ruin.

This is outrageous and terrifying.

I beg of you to commit to a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Allyson Kulavis

Seattle, WA

--

Allyson Kulavis, MA
Empowerment Coach/Actor/Published Author/Educator

[REDACTED]
To live you have to experiment, to have the ability to experiment you have to have confidence. to have confidence you have to be loved, to be loved you have to love.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tara Dubarr [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

In my home state of Colorado, an estimated 38,000 people will lose their health care! Uninsured individuals who have no other choice will go to Emergency rooms for medical help. Hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans.

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Tara Dubarr
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Boulder, Colorado 80305

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Natasha Felten [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Impact

I own a small company and I take care of two employees, my sister—her 3 kids and my mother.

Of the 7 people (other than myself) that I protect, 6 have pre-existing conditions...two are medicare dependent and all 7 have had a need for healthcare in the last year.

I was diagnosed with severe nerve damage in 2014 and without my health insurance, all 7 people that depend on me would have gone bankrupt.

Please do not vote down the ACA without 1) understanding the implications of the vote (# people that will lose insurance, \$ lost to medicare, overall implications to every American family of the vote).

This issue is bigger than making good on a campaign promise...this issue will create a social revolution. Vote No on the repeal of the ACA. We need and require a bipartisan, fully vetted and analyzed solution to this issue.



NATASHA K. FELTEN

President, Colorado Commercial Companies

O: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Denver, CO 80218



The information contained herein has been compiled from sources believed to be reliable. However, Colorado Commercial Companies has not independently verified the same and makes no guarantee, warranty or representation about such information. Any site plans, renderings, marketing data, pricing and other terms are subject to change at any time. Acquisitions, sales, investments and leases have important tax and legal implications. C3 recommends that any party to a transaction consult their tax and legal advisor.

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rayburn Wiley [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Rayburn Wiley
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gari Jensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Gari Jensen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Denver, CO, Colorado 80246

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Roberts [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Urgent Correspondence from State Independent Living Center

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Emily Roberts, and I represent one of nine independent living centers in the state of Colorado. The goal of these centers is to assist people with disabilities to live as independently as possible, by helping them with everything from housing to SSI applications, to job hunting, independent living skills, self-advocacy and more. We are able to offer these services to people free of charge in large part due to Medicaid, which helps us fund our programs. If Medicaid is cut, it is not just the lives and physical health of disabled individuals that will be in jeopardy, it is their ability to access services which improve their quality of life.

I run a program called the Colorado Choice Transitions program, the goal of which is to help people move out of nursing homes and back into the community, where they can be successful, contributing members of society. I provide these people with the medical and independent living services they need in order to succeed in the community, and my program is funded entirely by Medicaid. The cost of living in a nursing home is staggering. In Colorado, the average cost is \$228 per day, which adds up to over \$83,000 a year. There are two nursing homes within walking distance of my office; one has 75 residents, the other has over 150. Accumulated, the average annual cost of housing those residents in the facilities comes to over eighteen and a half million dollars, and I can tell you with certainty that most of that is being paid for through programs like Medicaid and Medicare, through the state. By contrast, living independently costs these individuals less than \$3,000 a month, barely a third of the annual cost of keeping them in a facility. If you permit Medicaid to be destroyed by this new bill, my program, and the potential for successful, happy lives for the people that I work with will fall apart.

Not only would my program be at risk, but the people who depend on Medicaid and Medicare to live in nursing homes, where they receive appropriate, life-sustaining care, will have no way to afford to stay, and will be discharged to the streets, where they will die. This is not an exaggeration. I worked with an individual earlier this year who was determined to be too high-functioning, in terms of needed services, to qualify for long-term care Medicaid any longer. When he lost that, he was discharged from the nursing home without the supports that he needed. As of last week, this individual is in the hospital, with an uncertain prognosis. This is a tiny example of the mass-scale devastation that the destruction of Medicaid could cause, and it would be at the hands of the individual in whom we as a state placed our trust and our faith to do what was best for us, and to ensure our wellbeing.

Separate from my role as a case worker, I am myself an individual with a disability, and I utilize Medicaid in order to afford my needed medical services and medication. Without these things, I would not be able to be a successful, contributing member of society. I could not work, and would be forced to turn to SSI or SSDI in order to survive. The loss of Medicaid would mean the loss of independence for myself and thousands of others in my position, to the detriment of everyone in the state.

It is with these thoughts in mind that I strongly plead with you to vote against the proposed Medicaid cuts, as doing so would have a devastatingly deleterious effect on the state of Colorado, and on the nation as a whole. Thank you,

Emily Roberts

*Emily Roberts, Bac.Psy
Disabled Resource Services*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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sandy REAVEY
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Denver, Colorado 80231

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Lingo [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

Senators,

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy health care bill and urge you to do the same.

I need affordable health care with no high-risk pools for pre-existing conditions, no lifetime caps, no annual caps, and no higher charges for seniors under 65.

I am a grandmother with multiple sclerosis (MS). My annual drug costs exceed \$70,000. Without the drug treatments, I would become disabled. I am 63 years old and not yet eligible for Medicare. I am not eligible for Medicaid. I cannot afford to pay for the MS drugs without insurance. I pay for my own individual insurance, which costs \$8400 in annual premiums plus \$5000 out-of-pocket copays and deductible. I reach the maximum out of pocket every year. I can barely afford \$13,400 every year, but I do it.

Under Graham-Cassidy, I would be placed in a high-risk pool. My premiums would skyrocket due to my age and my pre-existing condition. That is not "access" to health care. I would have to forego my treatments and let the disease take over.

Please don't do this to me. I've worked all my life, owned my own small business for the last 30 years, paid my taxes, invested what I could and contributed to the community. I do everything I can to support my health with exercise and a healthy diet, but some things like MS happen anyway. In other words: I have never been a "taker." I pay my fair share into the system and I expect the system to help me now, when I need it.

A bill of this magnitude must have an open and transparent review process including a full CBO score, multiple hearings and bipartisan negotiations. This bill had none of these. How can any of you support it without full information?

Senators, you are responsible to the American people, not to your donors. Your donors want tax cuts paid for by taking health care dollars from millions of people like me. I urge you to do the right thing and oppose the Graham-Cassidy health care bill.

Sincerely,
Kathy Lingo
Denver, Colorado

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy Bicknell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Keep and improve the ACA

Dear Senators,

Our family is grateful to have quality, affordable healthcare, but it is not available to all. The Graham-Cassidy bill would make healthcare more expensive — and potentially unaffordable, for millions of our fellow citizens. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Judy Bicknell

[REDACTED]
Boulder, Colorado 80304

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Audrey Merket [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son has autism spectrum disorder and having his therapies covered by our insurance has been a lifesaver. My husband and I also cared for his mother before she died from lung cancer at the age of 57 as a non-smoker. Medicaid made it possible for us to get her the medical and eventually end of life care (hospice) that she needed without our young family going into debt. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Audrey Merket
Golden, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am absolutely appalled at the underhanded ways the GOP comes up with to try to get rid of the ACA. There is little humanitarianism left in the world, and by trying to push this bill through with no regard to the millions of people who will be effected, another chunk of it will be gone.

In all of the time since ACA was passed and the GOP has been trying to get rid of it, it would seem that some thought would have been put into what would BEST replace or improve the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, for both moral and logical reasons.

Sincerely,

Margaret Moody
Denver, Colorado

PS. Is it a coincidence that ACA is so close to DACA (also from President Obama) and both testing the humanitarianism of our Congress?

Humanitarianism: an active belief in the value of human life, whereby humans practice benevolent treatment and provide assistance to other humans, in order to better humanity for both moral and logical reasons. (Wikipedia.com)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Partridge [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid Expansion is needed!

Dear Committee,

I have a family member who relies on the Medicaid expansion in Colorado to get the health care she needs. Like thousands of others like her, she deals with a mental illness diagnosis. Not severe enough to warrant full disability, she can work and contribute when her medications are balanced. Medicaid allows her to access the clinic and care she needs to thrive. Without it, the services would be unaffordable, and indeed, unavailable as the clinic is for Medicaid patients. Please do not allow a roll-back of the Medicaid expansion. Our country needs it.

Thank you,

Kathy Partridge
2719 Denver Ave.
Longmont, CO 80502

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Favazza [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

To Whom It May Concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My health insurance under the Affordable Care Act was vital to me as I worked through graduate school to get my master's degree. Now, I work with students and families who depend on affordable health care and Medicaid for their speech and language disabilities. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Lisa Favazza

Denver, Colorado

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Constance Kindle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: .gchcomments
Subject: US Health Care

If health care can be made affordable, then government oversight beyond limiting out of control costs can be limited. The public is painfully aware of contributions received by Congress for favorable outcomes for health care and pharmaceutical corporations. Congress will be held accountable if the public pays the price of that support.

To Cory Gardner: I personally know constituents of yours who may have to choose between health care and housing if the current bill becomes law. You will not be serving, protecting or representing Colorado and with an affirmative vote, without an amendment guaranteeing reduction of usury costs. Many Republicans may want to overturn the ACA to fulfill a campaign promise, but your campaign promise was to be your own man and represent our best interests.

Respectfully,
Constance Kindle
Registered Voter, Evergreen, CO 80439

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Coleman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good afternoon,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. My husband has had basal cell carcinoma and could be dropped from his insurance coverage or forced to pay more for health insurance if this bill goes into affect. Punishing Americans with pre-existing health conditions is not an American Value. Neither is a bill that would result in millions of Americans, particularly low-income or older adults, loosing their health insurance. I am also a primary care provider and my low-income mothers and their children would lose their access to primary care and contraceptive care. As a citizen, a healthcare consumer and healthcare provider, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill and any other efforts to repeal the ACA and strip healthcare from millions of Americans.

Sincerely,
Kate Coleman-Minahan PhD, RN, FNP-BC
Denver, Colorado 80207

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eleanor Lynch [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I'm 56 years old. This is a TERRIBLE bill for me, personally. My premiums will rise substantially and my coverage will shrink. Please DO NOT DO THIS.

I will be contacting Senator Gardner of CO directly. This is bad for Colorado and bad for the U.S.

Eleanor Lynch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Richards [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Saving our healthcare and medicaid, stop the Graham-Cassidy bill now!

It's time to put and end to the Republican shenanigans for taking us backward in our nations health care system. My family member relies on the Medicaid programs and prescription assistance programs to maintain himself and even with this support he still has to pay out of pocket an additional \$ 2500 for living quarters with supervised care. Before the ACA he was a revolving door in and out of hospitals, skipping medications and getting into trouble created by his mental illness condition. Presently we still have issues however he is recovering with affordable proper care and doctors. Many families and individuals still are in need and there will be many more people seeking ACA assistance. Tell Senators Graham and Cassidy to improve the healthcare system, not take things away!

Sent from my iPhone

Thank you

Bill from Colorado

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Klipping [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

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

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Full Name: Sharon Klipping

Address: [REDACTED], Boulder, CO 80304

I am writing to express my dismay with the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill and with the way congress has handled this matter. It is impossible for me to plan for my future not knowing what my health care plan will or will not cover. I am afraid to go to a doctor for even an annual check-up for fear that I could be considered to have a pre-existing condition that won't be covered. Please, I beg you to fix the problems with the Affordable Care Act and forget about "repeal and replace". Political motives are holding American citizens hostage and putting our health at risk.

Sharon Klipping

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kyra Long [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill comments

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

I have multiple pre-existing conditions. I was born with endometriosis, a painful and life-long disease that is primarily treated with birth control pills and repeated surgery to remove growths. At times, the pain is crippling. One of these growths got too big, applying torsion to one ovary and crowding out a kidney. This led to life-threatening high blood pressure, two stents, emergency abdominal surgery, the loss of the ovary, multiple biopsies, four days in a hospital, and 6 weeks out of work. Another of these could happen at any time. I am also hypothyroid. I take daily medication for this. Because of my insurance, my out of pocket for my medications is minimal. The cost of my surgeries and hospital stays is manageable. This is extremely important, because we are a family with only one income - my husband stays home with our child because my job comes with insurance and his did not. If we didn't have the coverage that we have, I have no idea how we could make ends meet. My daughter is likely to have inherited endometriosis, as I inherited it from my mother.

My mother does not have health insurance, because she cannot afford it and the Medicaid wait list in Colorado is years long. When she is injured, she relies on the indigent care system. Emergency care in this country is excellent, and they will stabilize a patient or save their life - but then a person is on their own for preventative care or non-urgent care, and that means that it often can't happen. Years ago, before the ACA, she broke her wrist while working. She owned her own business, and couldn't afford health insurance. She was seen in an ER, and a temporary cast was put on the wrist. She was told that she needed surgery to restore the wrist to full functionality. She was discharged. She looked, but could not find a surgeon willing to do the surgery if she could not pay for it. She did not have access to a Doctor to take off the cast or check that it had healed, so she waited 8 weeks and removed it herself. The wrist is healed, but doesn't work quite right. It still does not hold weight like it used to, nor does it have the range of motion that it should. She still gets calls about the bills for that emergency room visit that indigent care didn't cover, from over 10 years ago. She will never be able to pay them.

My mother very likely has fibromyalgia. Before the ACA, close to 30 years ago, she had a Doctor tell her that it's likely that was what it was, but that she was still fairly functional, so she shouldn't do tests yet to confirm it or get treatment because then it would be a pre-existing condition and she wouldn't be able to get insurance to cover it when she really needed it. She was told to wait until it was really bad, get insurance, and then get as much care for it as she could before she was dropped or could no longer afford the insurance. Today, she tells me that she's glad that she didn't have insurance the last few years, because then she would have gotten treatment for her pain and it would be a pre-existing condition again when/if the ACA goes away. This is what this fight is doing. Even when people could theoretically get help, they are still afraid to because of the uncertainty of their coverage continuing. All of the people who finally got some help under the ACA now have pre-existing conditions that they may not have been willing to have on their records previously.

Healthcare is a human right. People should not suffer or die because they are poor or unlucky. Their lifespan and quality of life should not be determined by what state they happen to live in.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. We need more coverage, not less.

Sincerely,

Kyra Long

Lakewood, CO

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margot Iseman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:04 PM
To: gchcomments

Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
Full Name: Margot Iseman

Address: [REDACTED]
:Longmont, CO 80504

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to the above noted proposal. I am deeply disturbed that this proposal is even being considered. It will result in countless people with pre-existing conditions to be priced out of the insurance market. In addition, this proposal takes a tremendous amount of resources away from states like Colorado, where I live, in the form of redistributing Medicaid expansion funds from states that approved that expansion to states that didn't. This will be catastrophic for Colorado's citizens.

I strongly oppose this bill. Let's not cause harm to Americans all over the country.

Sincerely,

Margot Iseman

80504

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Nudell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fear about ACA repeal

I am a citizen of western Colorado. I'm 62 years old have severe asthma. I already pay nearly \$5,000 each year in co-pays and deductibles, mainly for asthma episodes. Last year I had emergency surgery for a ruptured disc and exceed my out-of-pocket cap. The ACA saved my home, our retirement savings, and saved us from bankruptcy. I am TERRIFIED of the GOP bill that will again put a cap on what the insurance pays, instead of the insured. I am also terrified of what my insurance will go up as a senior with pre-existing conditions - both ASTHMA and GERD. How in the world can someone on a fixed income afford a 60% increase in premiums?

I have worked all my life and am a proud and realistic tax payer. I do not mind paying my share of taxes. I DO mind tax money going to more military hardware and tax breaks for corporations - while MILLIONS of American lack health care, and 10's of THOUSANDS DIE every year because of the GOP. That's really it. The GOP "health careless" Bill is more deadly than ISIS, the Taliban, guns - all put together.

America First should be "Americans First." We take care of our OWN people before we spend on anything ANYTHING else.

Carol L. Nudell

Corazon de Oro Paso Fino Horses

"The path to your horse's heart lies through your own."

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tara falk [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: STAND AGAINST Graham-Cassidy-Heller Act

My name is Tara Falk and I am an American Citizen from Denver, CO 80207. I work in Employee Benefits, obtaining health, dental and ancillary benefits for Small and Large Group Businesses. Since the inception of the ACA I have seen far more positive effects on the lives of Americans than before the ACA. I am continually horrified by the actions of such hypocrisy, sheer viciousness and complete lack of regard for the American people that the GOP, under this colossal disaster of an administration. I am sickened. After over 15 months of public hearings and debate, over 100 Republican amendments, input from women and minorities, and a CBO score the ACA became law. You are trying to jam through, unseen, a piece of legislation that you voted to exempt yourself from!!!! No public debate or hearings, no input from Dems or Independents, no input from women or minorities and not even a full CBO score. The poor humans who have to jump at your beckon call to take six months of work and jam it into one incomplete CBO score because you are nothing but destroyers. Slash and burn politics. No ingenuity. Zero honesty. You would gladly throw women, our most vulnerable, the elderly, disabled and low-income children, veterans, and the hard working middle class under the bus to give away more cash to the insurers, your lobbyists and the wealthy. Morally and spiritually bankrupt. That is the GOP of today and the only good thing about these mean spirited, half assed attempts to turn your backs on those you are supposed to serve, is that we see you. SO many see you and what makes you tick. It's unhealthy, and it will continue the top 1% bloating at the seams and trick down stick in their coffers. Shame on you. I know so many who will lose in this scenario and they are the best humans, hardest working, battled disease or mental health issues and come out on top because they finally got the care they deserved. The care you have, the care we pay for you to have. STAND AGAINST Graham-Cassidy-Heller Act. Maybe more of the GOP should read the damn thing and grow a spine. Serve the hard working citizens of this country who pay you, not massive super pacs and corporate entities that fill your pockets.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Park <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

To the Senate Finance Committee,

The Graham-Cassidy bill appears to be worse than full ACA repeal. It's cruel, radical and would cause MORE disruption than the previous versions of Trumpcare. The GOP has a lot of nerve lying to our faces and calling this bill moderate.

Why would you support a bill that would cause 32 million people to lose their health insurance?

Why would you support a bill that allows insurance companies to discriminate against families like mine who have a child with autism? Graham-Cassidy would wipe out protections for pre-existing conditions. We could see a 135% or \$5,510 surcharge on our premium because of my son's autism.

Why would you support a bill that eliminates the individual mandate without a replacement? This will cause utter chaos and all our premiums will spike as only the sickest people enroll.

Why would you support a bill that slashes federal healthcare funding? Colorado will lose 823 million by 2026 - this will gut funding of Medicaid and school services for people with disabilities like my son.

Why would you support a bill that doesn't follow regular order? No legitimate hearings, no mark ups, no CBO score, no bipartisan input. You are not fooling anyone - you sneak and rush because you know this is an unpopular bill and most Americans want the Senate to focus on stabilizing individual insurance markets and find bipartisan fixes to the ACA. We do not want Trumpcare!!

We do not want Graham-Cassidy!!

Lauren Park

[REDACTED]
Boulder, Colorado 80302

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dennis Mohatt [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller
Attachments: Mohatt Comments ACA Repeal.pdf

Please accept the attached as my comments on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller ACA repeal bill. I strongly oppose this bill. Thank you.

Dennis Mohatt
[REDACTED]
Dacono, CO 80514

September 22, 2017

██████████
Denver, CO. 80205

To the Senate Finance Committee Members:

I am writing as a person of faith from the Denver community asking that you vote against the Cassidy-Graham health care bill coming before you. All faith traditions require us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God, loving our neighbor, all human beings, as ourselves. This bill dishonors all such teachings, taking our taxes for uses other than healing and restoration. It is wrong, in fact it will mean increased sickness, death, bankruptcy, loss of jobs, loss of independence and opportunity, and despair for many.

Here in Colorado, we would lose coverage for thousands of children, families and the low income workers in the first year. By the end of 10 years, all those with disabilities and others with precious Medicaid would be dropped altogether. How can you justify this disaster for our communities? Our state is also hampered by a budget bill, the "Taxpayer Bill of Rights" that will prevent the state from making up the huge shortfall to prop up our citizens, potentially \$3 BILLION dollars. We all pay taxes but they will not be coming back into our communities and homes. Health care benefits individuals, providers, businesses and local governments, and all will suffer if these cuts are made.

As a physical therapist, there is nothing more frustrating than having a family with a child with cerebral palsy, one with easily treated Torticollis, a person with a stroke or Parkinsons, etc. arrive at your clinic only to be turned away due to lack of insurance. It is unconscionable that the richest country in the world throws away people, akin to having death squads roaming our streets.

The Cassidy-Graham bill is being supported with false numbers, comparing the damage to states from day one of implementation to cut-off (2018 to 2027) rather than from the present to that end date. It will devastate Colorado, particularly rural residents and hospitals, as well as most all other states. It must not be voted out of committee.

It is only right that the bill have a full hearing with testimony from citizens and not be rushed through just so the Senate can get points. It is immoral to play with people's very lives. I look for your votes against the bill. We will strongly support you in this position.

With hope and sincere wishes,

Judy Danielson
Physical Therapist
Mother of child with diabetes
Grandmother of child in NICU for 5 weeks

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: BARBARA H HERSHFELDT [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

We DO NOT want this bill passed under any circumstances!! It is a disgrace. Barbara Hershfeldt, Thornton, Colorado, Fran Hershfeldt, Strasburg, Colorado, Sue Massey, Boulder, Colorado Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cara McDonald [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony on Graham-Cassidy

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

FROM:
Cara McDonald, Evergreen Custom Media
[REDACTED]

This letter is to vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I were able to quit our jobs and each start our own business because of the ACA. We now employ 12 people in our rural mountain community, and I am so proud that my company has been able to provide paid medical benefits to our employees for the first time this year.

All of us in my company have pre-existing conditions. The uncertainty and lack of patient protection regarding pre-existing conditions contained in Graham-Cassidy could have devastating effects and result in our inability to provide this benefit for employees.

Not only is this a hasty, poorly crafted rush job of a bill that would implicate 1/6 of our economy in unknown ways, but the American public sees this for the hate-motivated political maneuver this is. If it doesn't pass, the GOP faces a loss in funding from the Koch brothers, who hold that party and this country hostage with their billions and their agenda.

The American people have overwhelmingly expressed a desire to maintain and improve the ACA. We are watching, we are engaged, and we will not let the Senate Finance Committee or the entire US Senate off the hook for this travesty against the American people.

Regards,

Cara McDonald
Editorial Director
Evergreen Custom Media

Publishers of:
Fort Collins Magazine
Breckenridge Magazine
Winter Park Mountain Living Magazine
Town & Mountain Magazine (Frisco & Copper Mountain)
Devil's Thumb Ranch Resort & Spa Wedding Magazine
Stroke-Network.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lee Cassin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham

[HOME](#)

[TAKE ACTION](#)

[SIGN THE PETITION](#)

- [Please](#)

Please consider these points in discussing Cassidy-Graham. I ask the committee to work on bi-partisan fixes to health care cost issues, instead of merely repealing the ACA. Graham-Cassidy would have the following effects on me. (I am a very healthy recently-retired person who works out every day, eats well, and fortunately, has good genes.)

Like 85% of Americans my age, I have pre-existing conditions (sun-damaged skin, no cancers). I will be denied coverage or required to pay unaffordable rates.

I live in a rural area where I have been unable to find either a primary care doctor, or skin-check doctor who takes new patients.

My brother in law has Parkinsons disease and will not be able to get insurance given that this bill has no guarantee of affordable coverage for people with pre-existing conditions.

My brother, also in excellent health, has early prostate cancer. So he will be denied affordable coverage as well.

My husband, running his 34th marathon in 2 weeks, will be denied affordable coverage because he has thick blood.

My daughter has been unable to get an appointment with an ob-gyn because Planned Parenthood closed and no one else is taking new patients. She is trying to get pregnant.

As a woman, I am offended that birth control may not be covered as an essential service, but Viagra is covered. Insurance companies should not be able to make that discriminatory choice.

My state will lose Medicaid funding to those states that did not choose to take it on. Now my state will not be able to ensure we have essential services covered, subsidies for insurance companies that carry high-risk patients, or help for lowest-income people. Saying the money will be given to the states in block grants does not fool anyone. Removing funding will drastically increase costs for individuals.

My sister will no longer be able to buy insurance. She has owned her own business for over 30 years, is in good health, but has low income so relies on the credits to buy health insurance.

The President and Republicans promised they would not take away coverage from anyone, but this proposal breaks that promise.

Please start with the Hickenlooper-Kasich plan. Do not move the Cassidy-graham bill forward. It will be a disaster for Americans.

Thank you
Lee Cassin


DeBeque CO 81630

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Lindsay [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Toal, Alison (Gardner)
Subject: Comments on Graham/Cassidy attached
Attachments: Comments.pdf

Cindy Lindsay

A Colorado Voter and Advocate for a Great America

[REDACTED]
Boulder, CO 80304

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Boyes Walbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony on Graham Cassidy Bill

My name is Renee Walbert from Denver, CO. Our Family is a Medicaid Family. My husband and I both work, him full time and me part time. We each are able to carry our own insurance through our employers. Our children are adults. Two live with disabilities requiring long term supports and services and they are each on a Medicaid waiver. Our other daughter also has a disability. Her husband is a vet and is attending college. He is covered by the V.A., but our daughter is covered under the Medicaid expansion, and our granddaughter has family Medicaid as well. It is likely that at some point in their lives, they will no longer need Medicaid, but for now, the Medicaid they receive keeps them thriving--living and working in their community and paying taxes. It allows our daughter to purchase her medication that keeps her healthy and able to work and care for their daughter while her husband attends school and also works part time.

Both of our children with complex disabilities work part time. Without the Medicaid supports that they receive for home and community based services, they would be institutionalized and unable to work and live in their own homes and communities. Medicaid is a cost effective way to keep them alive and thriving, contributing to their communities and being the healthy and amazing people that they have become. They have jobs, friends, volunteer service, boyfriend/girlfriends, church, family, homes...all because of the support received through Medicaid. Our son has had over 54 surgeries in his life, he was an expensive child. Our younger daughter over 35 surgeries. She was expensive too. We always carried them on our insurance but those Medicaid waivers were what kept our family from facing bankruptcy and contributed to getting them to adulthood.

I cannot emphasize enough how devastating the Graham-Cassidy bill would be to our family. My husband and I and the two kids needing long term supports live in CO. Block granting Medicaid would not work here due to TABOR (go ask Senators Bennett and Gardner what a complicated law that is!) And frankly, in Colorado, we already have a great deal of flexibility and our state Medicaid agency works well with stakeholders of all types, persons with lived experience, providers, counties, advocacy groups and non-profits as well as communicating clearly with CMS to provide an efficient, cost effective but also robust program.

Don't screw it up and end up costing more for fewer services with worse outcomes!!!

I grant you there are things that need tweaking in the ACA. Fine. Work at a bi-partisan level, listen to the governors like John Hickenlooper and John Kasich who have been crafting policies that will actually work, talk to the disability community (we know how to be thrifty and we are health and wellness focused because it's what keeps us alive!)

Below are some photos to put a face to our story. I am SOOOO Proud of my children and the challenges they have overcome to become the hard working, kind and compassionate adults that they are. They give back to their community in so many ways and the world would be less bright and less sparkling without them. Don't fail them. Vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Comcast [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

The American public is horrified by the proposed "health" care bill. Apparently, the GOP has absolutely no regard for our health, or our economic safety. This bill will place hardships on those most vulnerable. We beg Congress to vote no on this heartless bill. The only power we have is as voters, and I can assure you we have very strong, vindictive memories for those who try to place their greed above the interests of the constituents. PLEASE discard the referenced bill and work on a bipartisan solution to the GOP-provoked wreckage of ACA. Thank you.

Melanie Thurman
[REDACTED]
Denver CO 80229

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I oppose this bill because it will harm many Americans. In my family alone 8 people would be personally effected in a negative way because of pre-existing conditions. Do the right thing and do not allow passage of this bill.

Mary Westdorp
Loveland,CO

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suki Frisch [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I am adamantly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, and hope that you too will oppose the proposal. Leaving troves of Americans without healthcare, and penalizing those with pre-existing conditions is not an option.

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017" AND your (or your organization's) full name and address.

Susanna Frisch
[REDACTED]
Boulder, CO 80305
[REDACTED]