

PRESS STATEMENT

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Oppose Repeal of Reform and Work for Bipartisan Health Cost Containment Solutions Statement of Ralph G. Neas, President & CEO

The National Coalition on Health Care and the NCHC Action Fund call on the United States Senate to reject attempts to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). The ACA was not a perfect bill, but it was the first step in creating a health care system that works for all Americans and to ending the cycle of rising costs and declining access in the private insurance market that inflates the rolls of the uninsured and Medicaid. The U.S. Congress and all states must now invest in making the law a success through improvement and implementation.

Although the ACA did not meet all of the Coalition's specifications for health reform, it will fundamentally improve the health care system. American families no longer need to fear that a serious health problem will also become a serious financial problem. Seniors can adhere to their prescription regimens without worrying about how they will pay for their medications. Because of the ACA, the health care system in our country is taking its first steps toward controlling runaway health costs, but much more remains to be done.

Rather than engaging in political posturing and forcing symbolic partisan votes, the lawmakers must come together to improve the ACA and slow the growth of federal, state and private health costs. Truly systemic reform is necessary to prevent simply shifting the financial burden from one sector to another. The ACA begins the hard work of bending the cost curve and simple repeal would do more harm than good. Lawmakers must reject repeal and work in a bipartisan way to address the health cost crisis, before it is too late.

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The NCHC Action Fund is a 501(c)(4) not for profit organization devoted to public education, and advocacy to secure stable affordable health care for America. The National Coalition on Health Care, the oldest and most diverse alliance of groups committed to securing and sustaining health care system reform, is a 501(c)(3) organization. Some members of the National Coalition Health Care (NCHC) do not, or cannot, take positions either on specific legislation, strategies or on any policies outside their respective mission areas. Not every member of NCHC has a position on or supports every position of the NCHC Action Fund. However, all that can, do endorse broad policy positions do support comprehensive health system reform. Both organizations are located at 1120 G Street, NW, Suite 810, Washington, DC 20005. Phone: (202) 638-7151.