

January 18, 2017

Dear Members of Nebraska's Congressional Delegation:

As members of the business community, health care professionals, religious leaders, and non-profit organizations, we call on Nebraska's members of Congress to protect and build on the coverage gains made under the Affordable Care Act, not go backwards.

Our nation's uninsured rate is at an unprecedented low. Last year, more than 87,000 Nebraskans enrolled in plans on the Health Insurance Marketplace, and thousands have enrolled or renewed coverage since the beginning of this year's Open Enrollment period. Nebraskans are currently reaping the benefits of more affordable, meaningful coverage with increased consumer protections.

Nebraskans can no longer be denied or charged more based on pre-existing conditions and do not have to worry they will be dropped from coverage if they get sick. Women are not charged more just for being women. Families have peace of mind knowing the types of services they need, such as preventive screenings and treatment, mental health therapy, and prescription drugs, must be covered by their plans.

With these things in mind, repeal and delay is not an effective or responsible strategy. Nebraskans deserve to know the future of their health care prior to the existing insurance system being overhauled.

We therefore strongly urge you not to repeal the Affordable Care Act without first having a replacement plan that builds on its foundation, that allows everyone to keep their health insurance, and that provides for affordable, meaningful coverage and consumer protections.

The undersigned stand ready to provide resources, engage in discussion or otherwise provide support on this important issue.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics - Nebraska Chapter
Bold Nebraska
Center for Rural Affairs
CenterPointe
Children and Family Coalition of Nebraska (CAFCON)
Cindy Johnson AuD, CCC-A, Clinical Pediatric Audiologist
DeLoris Tonack, Retired professor and member of the American Association of University Women

Disability Rights Nebraska
Friends of Public Health
Health Center Association of Nebraska (HCAN)
Holland Children's Movement
Jane M Carnazzo, MD
League of Women Voters of Nebraska
Leisha Eiten, AuD., CCC-A; Clinical Audiologist
Linda K. Ohri (Creighton University; Omaha Together One Community)
National Association of Social Workers - Nebraska Chapter
National Council of Jewish Women Omaha Section
Nebraska AIDS Project
Nebraska Appleseed
Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations (NABHO)
Nebraska Association of Local Health Directors
Nebraska Hospital Association
Nebraska Medical Association
Nebraska-Speech-Language-Hearing-Association
Nebraska Statewide Independent Living Council
Omaha Together One Community (OTOC)
People First of Nebraska, Inc.
Pioneer Progress
Planned Parenthood of the Heartland
The Arc of Nebraska
Therese L. Mathews, UNMC College of Nursing
Urban League of Nebraska
Voices for Children in Nebraska
Women's Fund of Omaha