



THE AIDS INSTITUTE

March 21, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House of Representatives
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Vote NO on the American Health Care Act

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi:

The AIDS Institute, a national non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and protecting health care for people living with HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, and other chronic and serious health conditions, is deeply concerned about the potential negative effects of the *American Health Care Act* (AHCA), which would repeal many elements of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and end Medicaid's guarantees for vulnerable Americans. We ask you to consider our concerns outlined below and **urge you to vote "NO" on the AHCA.**

While we agree that the ACA, including the Medicaid program and the Health Insurance Marketplaces, can be improved, repealing and replacing the law with the AHCA will result in millions of people losing health care and increased premiums. According to the Congressional Budget Office, over the next decade 24 million people would lose their coverage, including 14 million Medicaid recipients. Individual market premiums would increase by 15 to 20 percent in the near term, and those who remain covered would have fewer benefits.

People with HIV and hepatitis depend on consistent access to medications and cannot risk losing access to their health coverage or a cut in services, not even for a single day.

The *American Health Care Act* reduces access to health care, reduces coverage, and reduces benefits. **People living with HIV, hepatitis, and other chronic and serious conditions cannot afford to go backwards by eliminating or destabilizing the health care that the ACA and Medicaid provide.**

Please vote "NO" on the proposed reconciliation bill to repeal the ACA and fundamentally alter the structure of Medicaid.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carl Schmid". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Carl Schmid

Deputy Executive Director