#ObamacareRepeal REPEAL FACT SHEET

Obamacare: Broken Promises, Fewer Choices

Health Law's mandates equal more expenses, fewer choices for Americans

Costly Mandates:

Obamacare's mandates and taxes on employer-sponsored health plans are leading to higher out-of-pocket expenses and fewer services for <u>178 million Americans</u> who have relied upon job-based benefits for decades.

- According to the non-partisan <u>Kaiser Family Foundation</u>, employees who have job-based insurance have witnessed their annual deductible climb from \$900 in 2010 to \$1,478 in 2016 on average, for an individual plan. Employees working for small businesses now have to face average deductibles over \$2,069.
- Since Obamacare became law, several large employers have stopped offering benefits to part-time employees. Examples include <u>Walmart</u>, <u>Target</u>, <u>Home Depot</u>, and <u>Trader Joe's</u>.

Fewer full-time jobs and fewer work hours:

Obamacare makes it harder for employers to hire full-time employees, especially hurting opportunities for millions of Americans looking to grasp the first rung of the economic ladder.

- The non-partisan <u>Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has projected</u> that Obamacare will mean the equivalent of two million fewer full-time jobs in 2017 and 2.5 million fewer full-time jobs by 2024.
- The law's employer mandate makes full-time workers more costly to hire by requiring employers to provide them with government-approved insurance or pay a tax. Workers in the retail and restaurant industries—often younger and less-skilled workers—are being hit especially hard by these workforce cuts.

Soaring Costs:

Heavy-handed decisions made by bureaucrats in Washington around what health plans should and should not cover has driven premium hikes in the individual market.

- In 2017, the average premiums for the benchmark silver plan will go up by 22 percent.
- Some states face insurmountable increases. Some in Arizona will face premium hikes of up to 145 percent, while Oklahomans will face premium increases as high as 71 percent.

Less choice in health care plans:

Obamacare has drastically reduced Americans' choice among healthcare plans through a federal government takeover of the insurance marketplace.

• The President's promise – "If you like your plan, you can keep it" was named Politifact's "Lie of the Year" in 2013, after health care plan cancellations were mailed to over 4 million Americans.

Narrower networks of doctors:

Obamacare has also decreased Americans' choice of doctors.

One way insurance companies have sought for ways to control exploding costs under Obamacare, is altering physician networks to include fewer doctors and hospitals.

Failed state exchanges:

Setting up and running a health insurance exchange is a costly endeavor for states and many are finding it increasingly difficult to stay afloat.

- Despite <u>receiving nearly \$5 billion</u> in federal grants, nearly half of the 17 state-run exchanges are struggling financially.
- Of the 17 original state exchanges, five have closed or will close by 2017: Oregon, Hawaii, New Mexico, Nevada, and Kentucky. Despite each receiving millions of dollars in establishment grants, the federal government has only been able to recover \$1.6 million in federal taxpayer funds from these failed efforts.

Failed state co-ops:

Despite receiving billions of dollars in federal loans, <u>17</u> of the 23 co-ops established by the Obamacare have collapsed, including those in: Tennessee, Colorado, Iowa/Nebraska, New York, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, South Carolina and Arizona.

• In addition to billions lost in taxpayer dollars, this means <u>hundreds of thousands of Americans</u> will lose their health insurance plans.

Failed Healthcare.gov:

Despite over <u>\$2 billion</u> taxpayer dollars spent, the Obama Administration rolled out a faulty website that crashed frequently, was not secure, and has put Americans' sensitive personal information at risk since its inception.

"Confidential progress reports from the Health and Human Services Department show that senior officials repeatedly expressed doubts that the computer systems for the federal exchange would be ready on time, blaming delayed regulations, a lack of resources and other factors." – From the Start, Signs of Trouble at Health Portal (New York Times), October 12, 2013

"CMS told enrollment assisters earlier this month the website won't let some consumers in that situation sign up through the special enrollment period that they qualify for. That means people who've sought special enrollment for this reason must contact the federal exchange call center to complete their application. CMS didn't say how many people are affected by this glitch." – HealthCare.gov Glitch Affects Special Enrollment after Medicaid (Politico), August 12, 2015

A Department of Health & Human Services <u>report</u> found that among the <u>Healthcare.gov</u> database security vulnerabilities, 22 were classified as "high risk," meaning they could potentially result in severe or catastrophic outcomes, such as theft of personal information on a wide scale. – <u>HHS Office of Inspector General</u>, **September 2015**