

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 13, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan,

As Members of the New Democrat Coalition with a demonstrated commitment to working across the aisle to improve the Affordable Care Act (ACA), we write to express our strong opposition to plans to repeal the law. Repealing the law will have immediate effects that will lead to higher costs, less access, and lower quality care for Americans across the country. Access to lifesaving health care is not a partisan issue, and any changes to the Affordable Care Act should reflect this shared value of ours through a commitment to bipartisan dialogue.

Repealing the ACA threatens to interrupt care, price millions of Americans out of their health insurance, and have far-reaching consequences that will destabilize markets for all Americans, regardless of how they access health care coverage. Not only will this jeopardize access to health care for those who need it most, the anticipated burden of uncompensated care costs will cripple health care providers' ability to meet the needs of their communities.

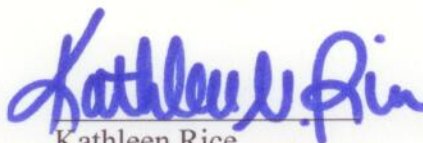
Instead of repealing, we are open to working with you to make constructive improvements to the Affordable Care Act that reduce health care costs for families and seniors, invest in prevention, increase choices for consumers, streamline regulations, reduce burdens for small businesses, and encourage participation by the young and healthy. We believe there are productive changes that can be made to improve the Affordable Care Act without compromising the critical protections our constituents depend on. We can't go back to a time when preexisting conditions made a person uninsurable, when women were charged more for insurance than men, and when seniors had to pay out of pocket for prescription drugs because of the "donut hole."

We hope that you will take these factors into consideration and work with Members from both parties to responsibly work towards the goal of high quality, affordable health coverage for every American.

Sincerely,



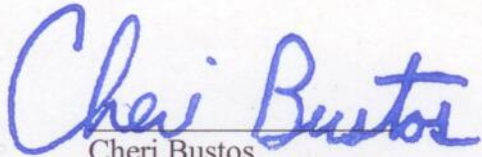
Scott Peters
Member of Congress



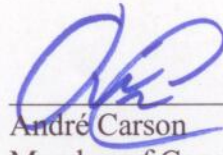
Kathleen Rice
Member of Congress



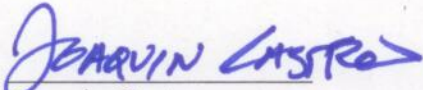
Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



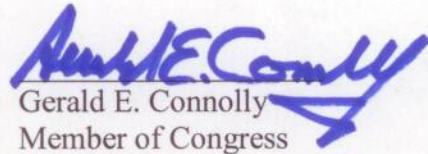
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



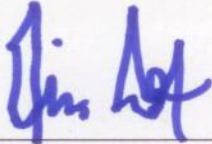
André Carson
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



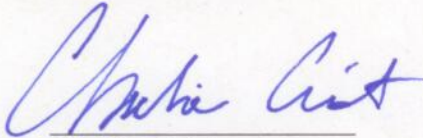
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



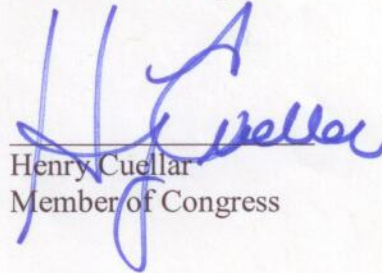
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



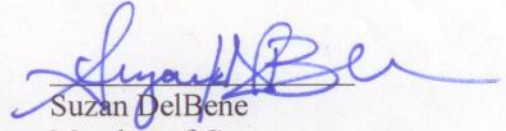
Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



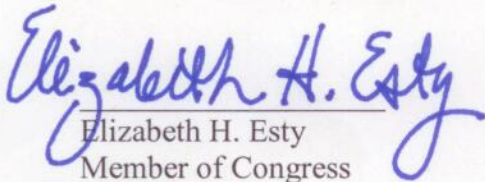
Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



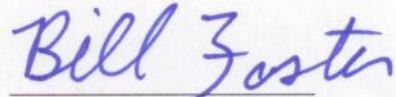
John K. Delaney
Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress



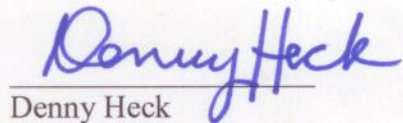
Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



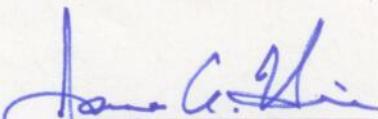
Bill Foster
Member of Congress




Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



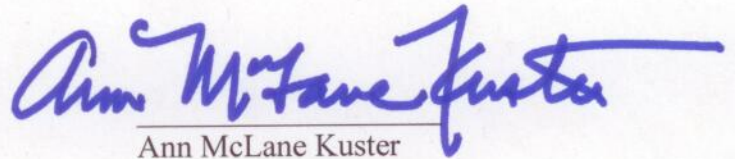
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



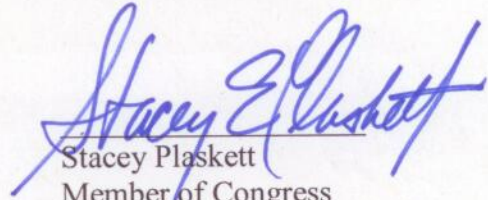
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



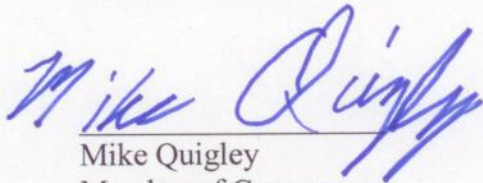
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress




Stacey Plaskett
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



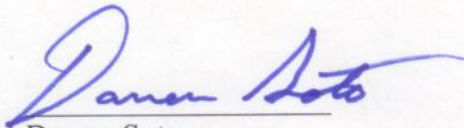
Cedric Richmond
Member of Congress



Brad Schneider
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Kevin Brady, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Greg Walden, Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee
The Honorable Virginia Foxx, Chairwoman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce