

Opposing The Repeal Of The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Referred to: The Public Health and Social Services Committee (Chairman Lopez and Legislators Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, and Roberts)

Legislator Jonathan R. Heppner offers the following:

WHEREAS, profound social, demographic, technological, and political changes have swept across the United States during the tenure of the 44th President, including important shifts in government policy and public opinion; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the nation continues to advance and embrace change in the form of legislation such as the Affordable Care Act, ACA, which makes healthcare and health insurance more affordable and more available to more Americans; and

WHEREAS, prior to 2010 and the enactment of the ACA, most health insurance policies did not cover dependents of the primary insured customers up to the age of 26, and it was not a required provision of all U.S. Health Insurance Plans; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, ACA, in 2010 provided opportunities for tens of millions of Americans to obtain health insurance through the open exchange even if they had pre-existing conditions; and

WHEREAS, since 2010, 19.2 million people have gained health insurance and the uninsured rate has dropped 38%; and

WHEREAS, under the new Administration, the ACA is likely to be irresponsibly repealed without a replacement plan in place; and

WHEREAS, if the ACA is fully repealed, 23.1 million people could lose their health insurance, including 1.4 million young adults on parents' plans; and

WHEREAS, a repeal of the ACA would have detrimental effects on the residents of New York and Ulster County, as an estimated 2.7 million New Yorkers would lose coverage, including 19,850 individuals in Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, the estimated direct New York State budget impact of the repeal is \$3.7 billion; and

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WHEREAS, a repeal would result in a total loss of \$595 million in additional federal Medicaid funding currently available through the ACA, which goes directly to New York counties and helps to lower property taxes; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County would lose \$2,935,566 in allocated annual funding; and

WHEREAS, only 26% of Americans want to see the ACA fully repealed; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature believes the health and civil rights of Americans should never be at risk; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature opposes any effort to repeal or weaken the Affordable Care Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature further opposes any similar measure that unnecessarily causes a massive increase in the deficit, reduces consumer rights and protections, and puts the health of the American people at risk; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to U.S. Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Congressman John Faso, Hon. Governor Andrew Cuomo, and the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC),

and move its adoption.

DEFEATED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 11 NOES: 8
(Ayes: Legislators Allen, Bartels, Berky, Briggs, Delaune, Donaldson, Greene, Heppner, Loughran, J. Parete, and Rodriguez)
(Absent: Legislators Gerentine, Maio, Roberts and Ronk)

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Defeated in Committee: Public Health and Social Services on January 30, 2017

Petition to Discharge successfully executed.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution DEFEATED by the Ulster County Legislature on the 15th Day of February in the year Two Thousand and Seventeen, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 17th Day of February in the year Two Thousand and Seventeen.

|s| Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature