



July 27, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230 U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221 U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

As the Senate continues to debate health care legislation, the members of the Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP) request any bill moving in the Senate include necessary steps to ensure the individual insurance market is stabilized and Medicaid beneficiaries are protected.

ACHP member plans have deep roots within their communities and important ties to the regions in which they operate. Working closely with providers, our plans are responsible for both coverage and care. This proximity to patients gives ACHP member plans a unique perspective on how critical and personal health care coverage is to local communities across our nation.

We believe fully funding cost sharing reduction subsidies (CSRs) is a vital element to long-term certainty in the market. Many of our plans have been working in their communities for decades and are not leaving the regions in which they operate. Nevertheless, if certainty is not brought to the market and policymakers in Washington fail to establish stabilization measures, consumers face the prospect of significantly higher costs.

Our health insurance system works best when as many people as possible are in the risk pool. Because of this, we ask Congress to consider a mechanism for broad participation in the market to ensure affordable premiums, spur more choices for coverage and expand competition. Without adequate financing and some form of a continuous coverage mechanism, we fear the individual market is unsustainable.

ACHP Member Plans stand ready to work with you and members of both parties to develop market-tested solutions based on our many years of real-world experience to improve the health of our communities. If you or your staff have any questions or would like to discuss these issues further, please do not hesitate to contact me at cconnolly@achp.org or 202-785-2247.

Sincerely,

Ceci Connolly
President & CEO

Cc: Honorable Members of the United States Senate

MAKING HEALTH CARE BETTER

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