

Fighting against the Republican's Health Care Tax Hike

Dear Friends,

As a government shutdown looms, Republicans are pushing a budget proposal that threatens lives and livelihoods. By eliminating health care tax credits and raising health insurance costs, it would strip coverage from millions of Americans - including more than 326,000 Massachusetts' residents.

This is not just a policy disagreement; it represents one of the biggest rollbacks of health care coverage and steepest increase in costs we have ever seen. Not only have Republicans limited Medicaid, they are now putting private health insurance out of reach.

Right now, millions of Americans get help from the government to lower their monthly insurance costs. This comes in the form of premium tax credits - basically, a discount that makes health insurance more affordable. Republicans want to take these tax credits away. If that occurs, people will pay hundreds more each month for health insurance and in annual taxes.

In real terms, this means working families will have to choose between paying for health insurance, making rent, and putting food on the table. With passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), we thought we had put these days behind us. But, with this budget proposal increasing ACA premiums by an average of \$2,560, more than 30,000 constituents will be at risk.

We can't let Republicans pass this health care tax hike.

I am working alongside other Democrats to protect the tax credits that help families afford health insurance and to stop Republicans' sweeping cuts to Medicaid. Health care is a right, not a privilege— and I will keep fighting to ensure that every American has access to affordable, quality healthcare.

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