



September 19, 2017

Honorable Rick Snyder  
Governor of Michigan  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 30013  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Snyder,

As you know, a new proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act is being pushed by U.S. Senators Bill Cassidy and Lindsey Graham and it is getting dangerously close to passage. Unfortunately, it continues the significant flaws of the American Health Care Act and the Better Care Reconciliation Act, including the ultimate elimination of the Healthy Michigan Plan and drastic changes to traditional Medicaid that will severely strain our state budget.

As it stands currently, the Cassidy-Graham healthcare “fix” will:

- Eliminate the financial assistance that helps families with low and moderate incomes purchase healthcare coverage;
- End expanded Medicaid coverage that helps millions of adults with low incomes, including 650,000 right here in Michigan;
- Jeopardize access to the most effective treatments for addiction and weaken states’ efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths;
- Undermine essential protections for people with pre-existing conditions; and
- Resurrect—and worsen—the devastating cuts in coverage and benefits that the American public and the majority of Congress have already rejected.

You have been a consistent and vocal leader for the healthcare needs of Michigan’s residents, from the earliest opportunity to utilize the Affordable Care Act to now. You were instrumental in getting Medicaid expansion passed in Michigan, and we believe that your voice can be instrumental in preventing its demise. Our residents with the greatest need—our seniors, families with low incomes and people with disabilities—need your help once again.

PROMOTING ECONOMIC SECURITY THROUGH RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

1223 TURNER STREET • SUITE G1 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48906

P: 517.487.5436 • F: 517.371.4546 • WWW.MLPP.ORG

A UNITED WAY AGENCY

But the Cassidy-Graham proposal is not just a threat to the people you serve. It is also a major threat to your pragmatic approach to government and your efforts to bring fiscal stability to the state. The Affordable Care Act and Healthy Michigan Plan have been extremely successful in Michigan, providing affordable healthcare to residents while creating jobs and reducing costs for hospitals and state agencies. Cassidy-Graham will undo all of that progress—and all of your great work.

While the Affordable Care Act and Healthy Michigan Plan have survived several repeal attempts in the last six months, Cassidy-Graham is the greatest and most concerning threat yet—and the most likely. We have to proactively work to fight back. While we at the League will keep doing everything we can to fend off this attack, you have much more power in this debate and we implore you to speak out against the bill.

Your voice can help stop this dangerous proposal. Michigan has and continues to be a key battleground state, giving you and our state significant influence on the national stage. And many of the high points of your legacy could be undermined if the Healthy Michigan Plan is eliminated.

I know you generally like to stay out of the political fray, as do we. But while Washington continues to make the Affordable Care Act a political game piece, it is up to us in Michigan to remind elected officials in Congress—from Michigan and across the nation—that this is about saving money and saving lives.

The Healthy Michigan Plan that you helped create has done wonders for our state and our people. Your practical, steady approach is needed once again to stand up to political opposition and put the needs of Michigan residents first. Please do what you can to stop this destructive bill from moving forward.

Sincerely,



Gilda Z. Jacobs  
President & CEO