International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



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OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

May 4, 2017

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), I strongly urge you to <u>OPPOSE</u> the deeply flawed American Health Care Act (AHCA), because it leaves millions of Americans without health care and despite the proposed amendments, AHCA will still drop the coverage guarantee for people with pre-existing conditions.

The AHCA gives tax credits to the wealthy, yet taxes working families. The wealthy will have their taxes cut on investment income, but workers will have to pay increased costs on their health insurance due to the continuation of the so-called "Cadillac" tax. Employers are now planning to raise deductibles, co-pays, and increase out-of-pockets limits just to cover the costs of the 40 percent Cadillac tax imposed on employer provided health insurance. Meanwhile, the 400 highest-income taxpayers will receive tax cuts of about \$7 million each. Millionaires will also get more than \$50,000 in tax breaks and drug companies will get an outrageous \$25 billion tax cut.

Medicaid will be slaughtered with more than \$800 billion in cuts. Medicaid provides health care to seniors, children, people with disabilities, as well as working families, and these cuts to Americans will be devastating.

The Affordable Care Act provided vital subsidies to Americans to help with the purchase of health insurance. These subsidies were based on income, but under the AHCA, a subsidy is tied to a person's age. While seniors would receive a slightly more generous subsidy, insurance companies will now be allowed to charge older Americans five times more than what they charge younger people. This "Age Tax" will significantly increase premiums and make essential health care unaffordable for struggling seniors.

While the Affordable Care Act has some flaws that need to be addressed by Congress, the AHCA takes America back to the days when health care was a privilege based on wealth. This is not what Americans want or voted for and the IAM opposes the AHCA because all Americans should have quality, affordable health care. I urge you to <a href="https://www.vote.nee.urg.nee.urg.nee.urg.nee.urg.nee.urg.nee.urg.nee.urg.nee.urg.nee.urg

If you have any questions, please contact IAM Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at 202-420-5902.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr. International President