

ACA Sabotage Timeline

The Republican health care vision – now that it is put into practice - is raising costs, reducing access, and increasing discrimination against people with pre-existing conditions. This week's bills do not undo sabotage, premium hikes, and benefit cuts Republicans have caused over the past 18 months.

- **Inauguration Day 2017.** President Trump issued an executive order that directs agencies to undermine the ACA.
- **January 2017.** Trump's HHS Department cut millions of dollars in outreach, customer assistance, and total enrollment time. HHS used tax payer dollars intended for advertising vital ACA enrollment information to fund an ad campaign intended to undermine the ACA.
- **May 2017.** House passed the AHCA, which would have left 23 million more uninsured over next 10 years, remove protections for those with preexisting conditions, implement an age tax and discrimination against women, increase 2018 premiums by 20%, and gut Medicaid with \$800 billion in cuts.
- **September 2017.** HHS threatened states with decreased funding for pursuing policies that would lower premiums, some predicted by as high as 30%.
- **October 2017.** The Trump administration announced they were cancelling cost sharing reduction payments (CSRs), which the CBO projected would leave 1 million more uninsured, raise premiums 20-25% over next 2 years, and INCREASE the deficit by \$200 billion.
- **December 2017.** The Republican tax bill added \$2.3 trillion to the deficit, cut three years off the life of the Medicare Trust Fund, and also zeroed out the individual mandate. The latter is predicted will lead to millions more uninsured and 15 percent premium increases.
- **June 2018.** The Trump administration directed the Department of Justice not to defend the constitutionality of the consumer protections in the ACA. Their legal argument, which has been denounced by liberal and conservative scholars, would gut protections that ensure the more than 130 million Americans with preexisting conditions are not denied or charged exponentially more for coverage.
- **June 2018.** The administration continued their streak of encouraging enrollment in junk plans when they finalized a rule to expand access to association health plans (AHPs). AHPs and short term limited duration insurance (STLDI) don't have to cover essential benefits, can charge more for having a preexisting condition (such as being a woman), charge more for older people, or outright reject coverage. Expanding use of these plans will lead to millions leaving the individual market, leaving a sicker risk pool and raising premiums.
- **July 2018.** The Trump administration announced they will not make \$10.4 billion in risk adjustment payments, which ensure insurance companies don't "cherry pick" and try to enroll only healthy populations. The administration stopped these payments at a time when insurers are determining their participation and rates for 2019.
- **July 2018** Trump's HHS Department cut outreach and consumer education funding to local organizations to \$10 million.

As a result of the Republican sabotage efforts, 4 million fewer Americans have health insurance than when President Trump took office.