



July 25, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell & Minority Leader Schumer:

This week, the United States Senate will consider legislation that would repeal the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA)*. As we understand it, the Senate may seek to repeal the ACA and approve a delay in the effective date of repeal. This would, in theory, provide the Senate time to develop and approve legislation that would replace current law, as established by the ACA.

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) opposes any proposal that would destabilize insurance markets and result in the loss of health care coverage for currently insured individuals. For these reasons, we urge the United States Senate to reject this proposal by voting no on the motion to proceed when considered by the Senate.

The AAFP, which represents 129,000 physicians and medical students, believes it is time to move beyond the current focus on repealing major portions of current law and instead seek bipartisan policies that build on our collective successes, address ongoing challenges, and improve our health care system for current and future citizens. On July 17th, the AAFP wrote a [letter](#) recommending concrete steps the Senate could take to implement reforms that would restore stability to our insurance markets and make health care coverage more meaningful and affordable for all Americans.

Again, we call on the Senate to reject this and any proposal aimed at repealing current law as established by the ACA. Furthermore, we would stress that provisions aimed at delaying the implementation of repeal legislation do not make repeal acceptable in any manner. The past 7 years have shown how difficult it is to identify and act on ACA replacement legislation and we see little evidence that the next two years would positively change this dynamic.

The ACA was not and is not a perfect law, and many of its policies need improvement. The AAFP and our members stand ready to work with you and your colleagues to implement bipartisan solutions aimed at improving our current health care system.

Sincerely,

Wanda D. Filer, MD, MBA, FAAFP
Board Chair

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