



July 27, 2017

Dear Senator:

AARP, with its nearly 38 million members, writes to express our opposition to the reported McConnell “skinny” repeal bill. The bill will leave millions uninsured, destabilize the health insurance market and lead to spikes in the cost of premiums. The CBO confirms that the provisions of the reported “skinny” repeal bill will lead to 16 million Americans losing their health coverage, including 4 million Americans who will lose employer-sponsored coverage. The result will be higher health care costs and fewer choices for millions of older Americans.

We are concerned that this proposal is intended to put Congress in position to approve a conference agreement on the House-passed American Health Care Act (AHCA), rather than a serious attempt to address the issues needed to improve our health care system. The AHCA would dramatically increase costs for older Americans, cause 23 million Americans to lose their health coverage, weaken Medicare, cut more than \$800 billion from Medicaid and threaten access to critical services that help older Americans stay in their homes.

We urge you to reject this flawed bill and this cynical approach. Instead, we urge you to begin work on a bipartisan solution to lower health costs and protect and strengthen the coverage that millions of Americans rely upon. AARP remains ready to work with you to ensure that we maintain a strong health care system that includes robust insurance market protections, controls costs, improves quality, and provides affordable coverage to all Americans.

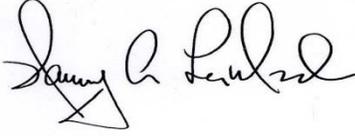
However, voting for the “skinny” repeal bill in an effort to simply move to a conference on the AHCA – a bill already rejected by a majority of the Senate -- will not accomplish these goals. Instead, it will result in a bad final product that will raise costs and reduce coverage, and prevent progress on bipartisan discussions. We therefore **urge you to vote NO**.

Our members and all Americans 50 years of age and older care deeply about health care and want to know where their elected leaders stand. Therefore, AARP will inform our members and the public how their Senators voted. We will communicate the results of the vote in our widely-circulated publications, in direct alerts to our members, and through both social and traditional media.

Again, **we urge all Senators to vote NO** on the “skinny” repeal bill.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or have your staff contact Joyce A. Rogers, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs at (202) 434-3750.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy A. LeMond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and "L".

Nancy A. LeMond  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Advocacy and Engagement Officer