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## URGENT ACTION ALERT

**DATE:** January 7, 2011  
**TO:** Concerned Parties  
**FROM:** Hilary O. Shelton, Director, NAACP Washington Bureau

### Extremist Proposal to Repeal New Health Care Reform Law Advances to the Floor of the U.S. House of Representatives as Early as Jan. 12

**U.S. HOUSE PASSES PROCEDURAL MOTION TO ALLOW FULL VOTE ON REPEAL OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, WHICH EXPANDS HEALTH CARE COVERAGE TO OVER 32 MILLION UNINSURED AMERICANS, INCLUDING 8 MILLION AFRICAN AMERICANS WHILE INCREASING PROTECTIONS OF THE INSURED**

#### **THE ISSUE:**

On Friday, January 7, 2011, the U.S. House of Representatives passed, by a vote of 236 yeas to 181 nays, a procedural motion to allow them to take up H.R. 2, the misnamed "*Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act*" as early as next week. Currently H.R. 2 is scheduled for a final vote in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, January 12, 2011.

Less than a year after President Obama signed the landmark *Affordable Care Act* into law the new leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives is leading a charge to repeal the Health Care reform legislation, which the NAACP fought so hard to see enacted last year. The *Affordable Care Act* represents a major overhaul of our Nation's health care system and will provide more than 32 million Americans, including 8 million African Americans, who had been uninsured with health care coverage.

Other provisions in this law which were strongly supported by the NAACP would :

- Take an aggressive approach to address the health care disparities that continue to plague so many racial and ethnic minority communities;
- Outlaw discrimination against Americans with pre-existing conditions;
- Create more than 300,000 new jobs by reducing the growth of health care costs and therefore allowing businesses to invest in jobs and growth rather than non-wage compensation;
- Provide our seniors with the freedom to get the care they need, including free preventative care, lower prescription drug costs and Medicare that they can count on;
- Not allow insurance companies to deny coverage to a person because he or she has gotten sick;
- Expand dependent care so that older children can be covered under their parents' policies;
- Create state-based exchanges through which people without employer-provided coverage can purchase health insurance;
- Provide federal subsidies to people who must purchase their own health insurance and earn between 133% and 400% of the federal poverty level (\$24,352 and \$73,240 for a family of 3 in 2010);
- Increase in the number of children from low-and middle-income families who have health insurance; and
- Shave \$130 billion off the deficit, according to the Congressional Budget Office, the entire package will cost \$940 billion over 10 years. It is also, expected to cut more than a trillion dollars from the deficit over 20 years.

Now is the time when we should be concentrating on fully implementing this new law so that the maximum number of Americans can enjoy the benefits of health insurance while at the same time minimizing the costs and risks associated to businesses and the economy overall. We have come too far in the struggle for health care equality to turn back the clock to the days of too many Americans being uninsured or facing distasteful medical

**More...**

## **THE ACTION WE NEED YOU TO TAKE:**

Contact your Representative **and URGE HIM OR HER TO OPPOSE H.R. 2 TO REPEAL THE NEW HEALTH CARE LAW.** To contact your Representative, you may:

### **ü Make a Phone Call:**

Call your Representative in Washington by dialing the Capitol Switchboard and asking to be transferred to your Congressman's office. The switchboard phone number is **(202) 224-3121** (see message section, below).

### **Write a Letter**

To write a letter to your Representative, send it to:  
The Honorable (name of Representative)  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**A SAMPLE  
LETTER IS  
ATTACHED**

No time to  
send a  
letter!  
Call, fax  
or  
e-mail  
TODAY!

### **ü Send a Fax**

If you would like to send a fax, call your Representative's office (through the Capitol switchboard) and ask for his or her fax number (you can use either the attached sample letter or the message box, below).

### **ü Send an E-Mail**

To send an e-mail to your Representative, go to [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov), and click on "Write Your Representative" (on the left hand side, just under "find your Representative"). This will help you identify who your congressman is and how to contact him/her.

## **THE MESSAGE**

- The NAACP-supported health care measure will provide health care coverage to 32 million Americans, including 8 million African Americans who are currently uninsured.
- Now is the time when we should be concentrating on fully implementing this new law so that the maximum number of Americans can enjoy the benefits of health insurance while at the same time minimizing the costs and risks associated to businesses and the economy overall.
- We have come too far in the struggle for health care equality to turn back the clock to the days of too many Americans being uninsured or facing distasteful medical decisions because they are underinsured.
- If the new health care reform law is repealed, Americans will lose other vital protections including a provision making it illegal to discriminate against Americans with preexisting conditions and an aggressive approach to eliminate health care disparities.
- It is estimated that the Affordable Care Act will result in the creation of more than 300,000 new jobs by reducing the growth of health care costs and therefore allowing businesses to invest in jobs and growth rather than non-wage compensation.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS IMPORTANT MATTER!!!**

If you have any questions, call Hilary Shelton at the Washington Bureau at (202) 463-2940.

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To become an NAACP member or to sign up for e-mail legislative and press updates, visit [www.naacp.org](http://www.naacp.org)

**Sample**

(date)

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: OPPOSITION TO H.R. 2, LEGISLATION REPEALING THE  
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_;

As your constituent, I urge you to do all you can to ensure that the *Affordable Care Act* which was enacted last year is not repealed or weakened in any form. Specifically, I urge you to oppose H.R. 2, legislation repealing the *Affordable Health Care Act*. The *Affordable Care Act* provides more affordable, quality coverage for over 32 million previously uninsured Americans, addresses many of the health care disparities that have plagued our Nation for too long, and expands health insurance coverage choices, including being able to retain one's current coverage, have additional private plan options, and a strong public health insurance option designed to lower costs and keep insurance companies honest.

By the time the *Affordable Health Care Act* is fully implanted in 2018 it will cover over 32 million Americans who currently do not have health insurance. The new law also outlaws discrimination against Americans with pre-existing conditions and does not allow insurance companies to deny coverage to a person because he or she has gotten sick; it reduces costs for people who currently have insurance and makes coverage more affordable for people without it; and it sets up a new competitive insurance marketplace where small business owners and families are allowed to shop for the insurance plan that works best for them. The reform includes an expansion of dependent care so that older children can be covered under their parents' policies; an increase in the number of children from low-and middle-income families who have health insurance; and an aggressive approach to address the health care disparities that continue to plague so many racial and ethnic minority communities.

Again, as your constituent I urge you to oppose and vote against H.R. 2 when it comes before you. Rather, I hope that you will work to ensure that it is fully implemented so that the maximum number of Americans can enjoy the benefits of health insurance while at the same time minimizing the costs and risks associated to businesses and the economy overall. I look forward to hearing from you to know what you will do on this issue and what I can do to ensure that health care reform is fully implemented to the benefit of the maximum number of Americans.

Sincerely,

(sign and print your name and  
remember to include your address)

**Remember to contact your  
Representative and BOTH  
your Senators.**