

# Defending the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid

March 15, 2017

Stephani Becker, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
Maxx Boykin, AIDS Foundation of Chicago
Scott Cross, Organizing for America-Springfield
Daniel Rabbit, Heartland Alliance
Kathleen Winters, The People's Agenda-Champaign

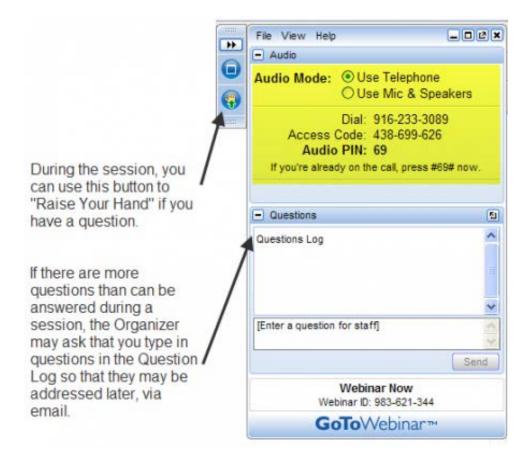


## Webinar instructions

- ► All attendees are in listen-only mode
- Everyone can submit questions at any time using the chat feature
- ► This webinar has too many attendees for questions to be submitted over the phone.
- During Q & A segment the moderators will read selected questions that have been submitted
- ► If you are having audio or webinar trouble go to preventionjustice.org for troubleshooting help



# Use the question feature to ask questions





## Join the conversation

- Join the conversation on Twitter:
  @ProtectILCare
- Use #ProtectOurCare #SaveACA and #MedicaidMatters
- Download the slides for the webinar at www.protectourcareil.org.



# Today's agenda

- Civics 101: How a bill becomes a law
  - ▶ Daniel Rabbit, Project Manager of Health Policy, Heartland Alliance
- ACA provisions and how the AHCA impacts them
  - Stephani Becker, Senior Policy Specialist, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
- Advocacy 101
  - Maxx Boykin, Community Advocacy and Social Justice Manager, AIDS Foundation of Chicago
- ▶ Town halls training
  - ▶ Scott Cross, Volunteer Lead, Organizing for America-Springfield
- Activity in Champaign-Urbana: A new grassroots movement
  - ► Kathleen Winters, Volunteer, The People's Agenda-Champaign
- How Protect Our Care can help you!
  - Maxx Boykin, Community Advocacy and Social Justice Manager, AIDS Foundation of Chicago
- ► Q&A



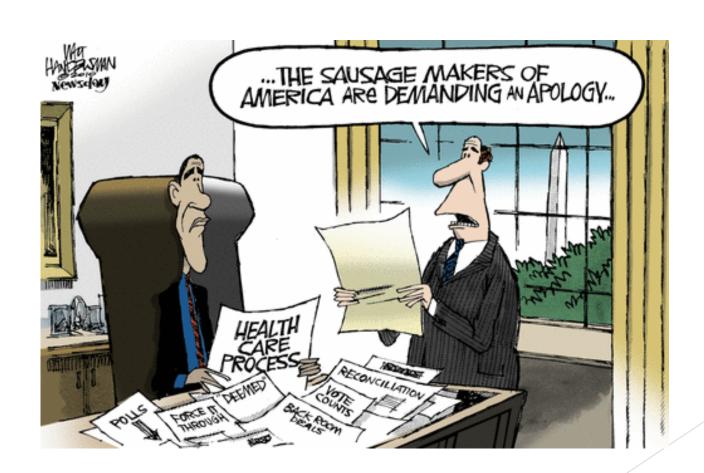


# Civics 101: How a bill becomes a law

Daniel Rabbit, Project Manager of Health Policy, Heartland Alliance



# How a bill really becomes a law

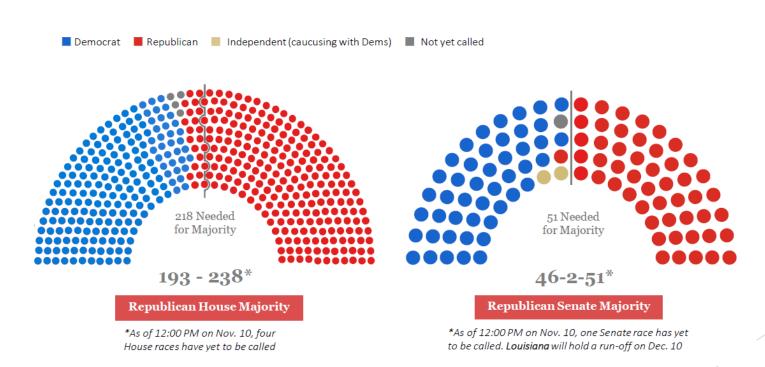




# 115<sup>th</sup> Congress

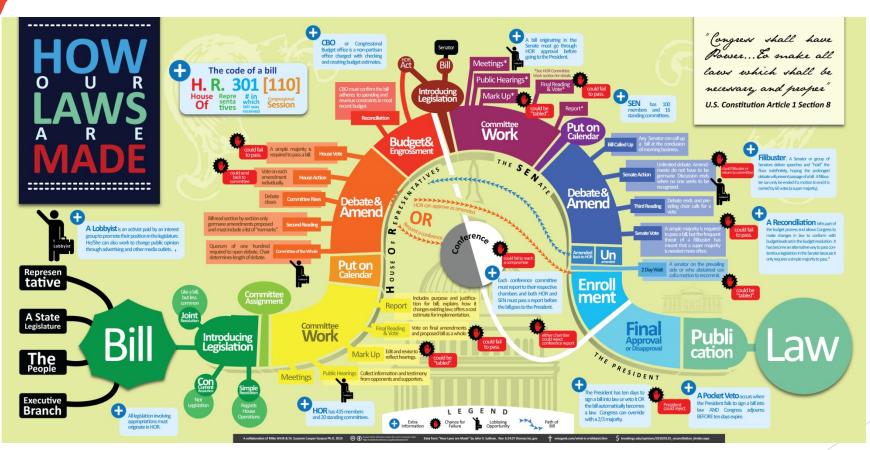
# Republicans keep the Senate and limit Democratic gains in the house in 2016 elections

Party control at beginning of 115<sup>th</sup> Congress (2017-2019)





# Regular order





# Budget reconciliation

- Intended to facilitate passing a budget each year in Congress
- Starts with a Budget Resolution with Reconciliation Instructions
- Committees draft legislation based on instructions
- ► House and Senate then pass legislation and work out differences in Conference Committee if necessary

IMPORTANT BECAUSE ONLY NEEDS 51 VOTES IN THE SENATE - NO FILIBUSTER



## American Health Care Act

- ► The result of a Budget Resolution and Reconciliation Instructions
- ► Next steps:
  - ► Heard in House Budget Committee and Passed
  - ► Considered in Rules Committee
  - ► Floor Debate Rules Established
  - ► Floor Debate and Vote
  - ► Send to Senate



# Lobbying and advocacy



protection on only



## How to influence lawmakers



- ► Constituent meetings
- Stories in the media
- Data
- Personal stories
- Direct action
- ► Coalition building



# Our goal: Vote NO on AHCA





# **CONGRESS: VOTE NO**

on the American Health Care Act!

ACTION.AARP.ORG/VoteNo





# ACA provisions and how the AHCA impacts them

**Stephani Becker**, Senior Policy Specialist, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law



# Key features of the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

- Medicaid Expansion (ACA Adult): State Option that covers 650,000 low income adults in Illinois.
- Easy Way to Compare Insurance Metal Levels/Marketplace
- Financial Assistance to buy insurance in Marketplace for people earning up to \$48K. 335,000 on Marketplace in Illinois and 78% get tax credits
- Age Rating Limit: Allows older people to be charged 3x more than younger people.
- "Essential Health Benefits" for all insured are mandated
- Individual mandate
- Employer mandate



# Key features of AHCA/Trumpcare

- Medicaid Expansion "freezes" in 2020
- Medicaid Funding changes from Entitlement to a Per Capita Cap
- ► Ends Cost-Sharing Reductions and ACA Tax Credits instead new Tax Credits by age and income from \$2,000-4,000 to buy insurance in Marketplace or off Marketplace
- Older people can be charged 5 times as much as younger people
- Change in Actuarial Value requirement and removal of metal levels (e.g., "Silver" Plan).
- Removal of Essential Health Benefit requirements for Medicaid plans.
- ▶ No Individual Mandate instead a continuous coverage requirement
- No Employer Mandate
- Cuts Federal Funding to Planned Parenthood
- Tax Cuts to Wealthy, Insurers, Pharmaceutical Companies, others protectourcareil.org

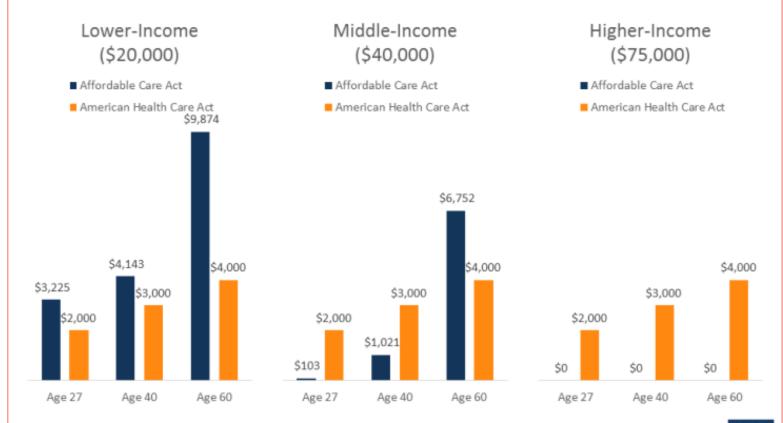


# Winners and losers under AHCA/Trumpcare

WINNERS	LOSERS
Younger People	Older People
Healthy People	70 Million Americans Covered By Medicaid
Higher Income People	Planned Parenthood (i.e., Women)
Insurance Companies	



How House Republicans' health reform plan might shift average health insurance tax credits, based on income and age, in 2020



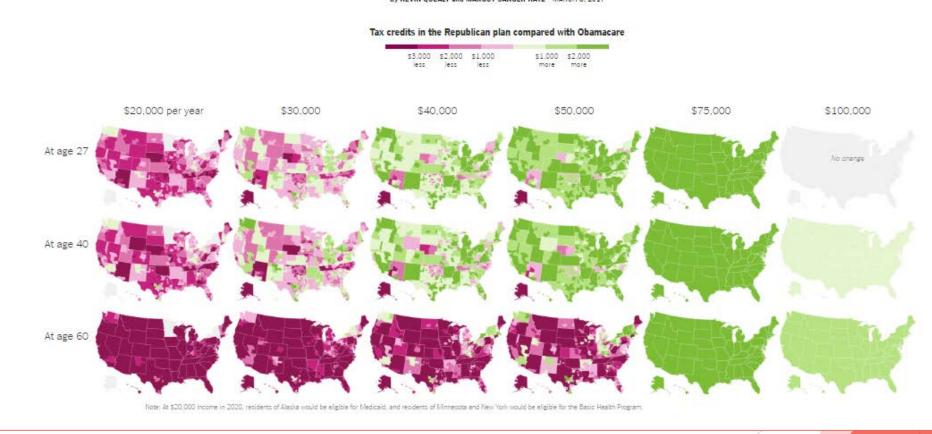
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis. Note: Data for Affordable Care Act represent the average tax credit available across all counties in the United States, at a given age.





# Who Wins and Who Loses Under Republicans' Health Care Plan

By KEVIN QUEALY and MARGOT SANGER-KATZ MARCH 8, 2017

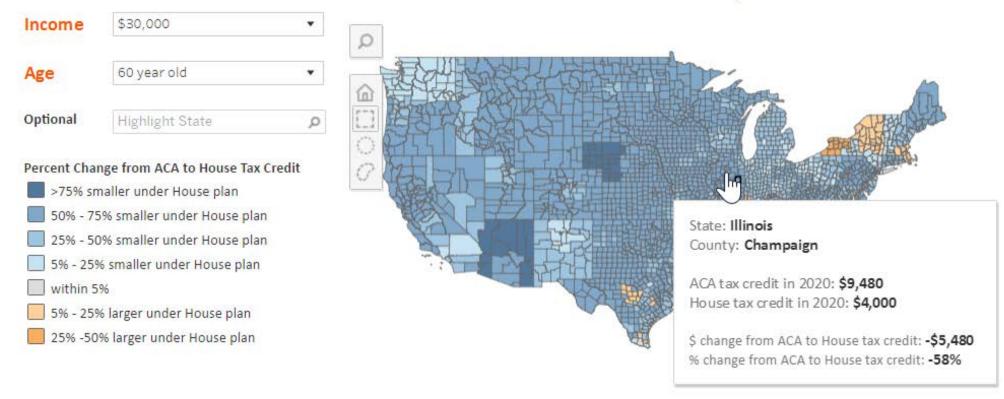


Source: NY Times, The Upshot Who Wins and Who Loses Under Republicans' Health Care Plan, March 8, 2017



# Impact of AHCA would be particularly severe for older individuals, ages 55 to 64.

Tax Credits Under the Affordable Care Act vs American Health Care Act, in 2020





# Impact of the AHCA on Illinois Medicaid program

#### X OUT

Medicaid as an **entitlement program** with open-ended, matching federal funds for anyone who qualifies



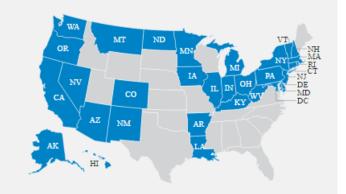
Medicaid would be funded by giving states a **per-capita amount** based on how much each state was spending for the fiscal year that ended in September.

#### How Medicaid expansion would be affected

Under Obamacare, **31 states** broadened their Medicaid programs to cover people making up to 138 percent of poverty-level income.

Under the GOP plans, the states would continue getting enhanced federal funding until 2020. After that, the government would keep paying 90 percent for beneficiaries already on the rolls as long as they remain eligible. Starting in 2020, new beneficiaries would be funded at a lower level.

Also as of 2020, coverage of **substance abuse and mental health services** would no longer be required for this population.



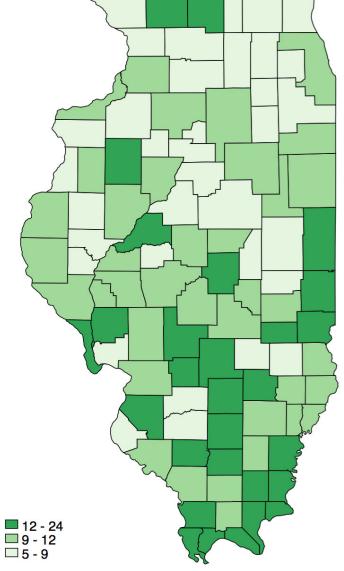
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OUT: Essential Health Benefit mandate for Medicaid plans

Source: Washington Post, March 7, 2017 How the House Republicans' proposed Obamacare replacement compares

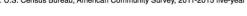
https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/politics/how-aca-replacement-compares/

## Percent of Adults Covered by Medicaid by County



Southern Illinois and rural counties have a high percentage of adult Medicaid recipients  $\rightarrow$  AHCA will impact them the most.

Note: In the lowest range presented, data are greater than or equal to the lower limit and less than or equal to the upper limit. In each subsequent range, data are greater than the lower limit and less than or equal to the upper limit.





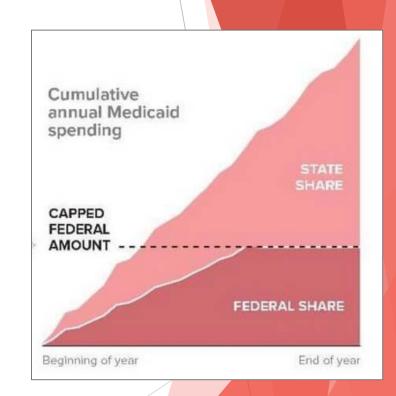
# Why Per Capita Caps are bad for Illinois

- Caps Medicaid funding (fixed/arbitrary cap) in order to cut federal spending
- Forces states to pay entire cost of unanticipated cost increases (like opioid epidemic or national disaster OR as population ages)
- Makes states vulnerable to deeper cuts in future
- By shifting costs to states, leaves states holding the bag and having to make increasingly deep Medicaid cuts
- Expands states' flexibility only to cut program in response to federal funding reductions
- Inhibits flexibility and innovation
- Harms state budgets, providers, economy

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: Medicaid Per Capita Cap Has

Same Damaging Effects as Block Grant, March 6, 2017. Image from

PoliticoPRO: <a href="http://www.politico.com/pro/amer-health-care-act-datapoint">http://www.politico.com/pro/amer-health-care-act-datapoint</a>





# Highlights from March 14 CBO report

#### **COVERAGE**

- ▶ 14 million people would lose their health care coverage in 2018
- 24 million people would lose their health care coverage by 2026
- 14 million low income people pushed off Medicaid
- Number of uninsured could <u>nearly double</u> under GOP plan (from 28 million to 52 million) under the plan.
- ▶ 15 percent of Planned Parenthood clinic patients would "lose access to care."

#### **COSTS**

- States, including Illinois, would see an \$880 billion decline in federal funding for Medicaid over 10 years.
- ▶ 95 percent of people who are getting Medicaid through the health law's expansion would lose that enhanced federal funding.
- ▶ 15 to 20 percent increase in 2018 premiums, but relief would follow for some.
- Older/poorer Americans would pay substantially more in coverage
- Reduce deficit by \$337 Billion by 2026

#### **INSURANCE MARKET/STABILITY**

CBO appears to believe that the 30% surcharge for people with gaps in coverage makes the risk pool sicker, not healthier.

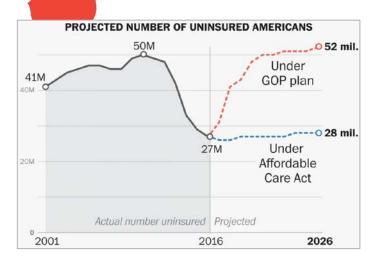
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Source: <a href="http://khn.org/news/deciphering-the-cbo-estimates-on-the-gop-health-bill/">http://khn.org/news/deciphering-the-cbo-estimates-on-the-gop-health-bill/</a> and

https://twitter.com/larry\_levitt/status/841417877458567168



# RESPONSES TO CBO REPORT SO FAR:





GOP Health Plan Would Hit Rural Areas Hard

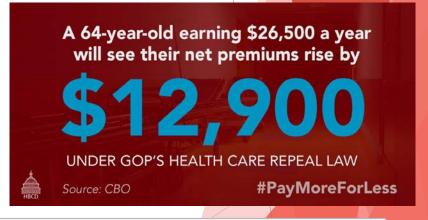
Poor, older Americans would see largest increase in insurance-coverage costs, analysis shows



- · 24 million people lose coverage
- \$880 BILLION cut from Medicaid
- Premiums increase by 15-20%
- Low-income seniors see a 700+% increase in premiums

#CareNotChaos #ProtectOurCare www.protectourcareil.org





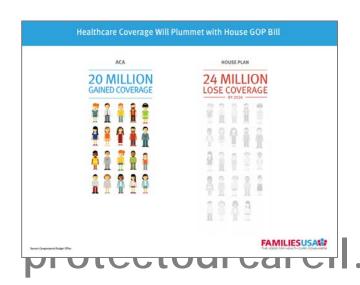
Trump promised not to cut Medicaid. His health bill will cut \$880 billion from it.

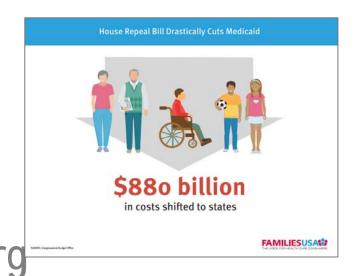
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# Four main take-aways about the GOP repeal bill:

- ► Healthcare Coverage Will Plummet
- Out of Pocket Costs (Particularly for Older Adults)
  Will Increase
- ► Illinois Medicaid Will Be Gutted
- ► Wealthy and Special Interests will Get Tax Breaks



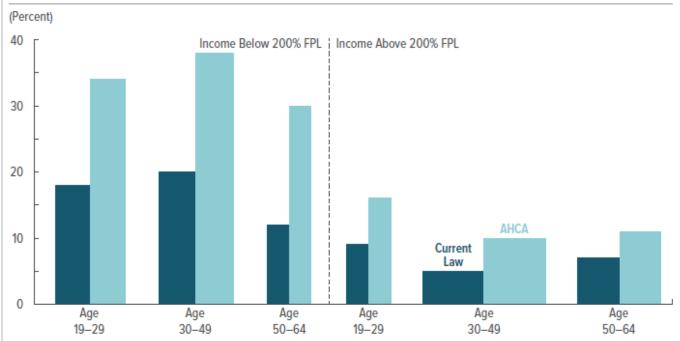






# More uninsured: At every income, at every age

Share of Nonelderly Adults Without Health Insurance Coverage Under Current Law and Under the AHCA, by Age and Income Level, 2026



Sources: Congressional Budget Office; staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation.

Estimates are based on CBO's March 2016 baseline, adjusted for subsequent legislation. They reflect the average number of people without insurance coverage over the course of the year in the noninstitutionalized civilian population of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The width of each bar represents the relative share of the population in each age and income category. In CBO's projections, 200 percent of the FPL in 2026 would amount to \$30,300 for a single person.

AHCA = American Health Care Act; FPL = federal poverty level.





# P.S. This is really bad for Illinois

- State Economies: Federal funds make up more than half of state Medicaid budgets.<sup>2</sup> Taking \$880 billion out of state economies, including Illinois, will have a significant ripple effect and every state will be hit at some level.
  - ► The economic impact of an \$880 billion federal funding cut to states would be felt in employment losses, reduced business activity, and state and local tax losses. 

    3

Governor Rauner: <u>Illinois 'won't do very well'</u> under Republican health insurance plan

Source: Families USA Talking Points on CBO Score of American Health Care Act



# How does AHCA impact specific populations in Illinois?

## How Does the GOP Health Care Repeal Bill Impact People with Disabilities? Community Catalyst





Massive cuts to Medicaid which provides coverage to over 10 million people with disabilities, including kids

**Cuts** to community-based services that allow people to live independently

#### **How Does the GOP Health Care** Repeal Bill Impact Working Families?





Cuts financial assistance for lowand middle- income families on marketplace plans

Increases costs by \$9,024 for a family making about \$60,000

Huge cuts to Medicaid, threatening the care many families rely on

#### **How Does the GOP Health Care** Repeal Bill Impact Older Adults?





Allows insurers to charge older adults premiums that are 5 times hiaher

Massive cuts to Medicaid, a program that provides nursing home care

**Cuts funding** for Medicare

## **How Does the GOP Health Care** Repeal Bill Impact People with Substance Use Disorders?





**Undermines efforts** to address our national crisis of opioid overdose deaths

**Huge cuts** to Medicaid jeopardizes access to treatment for addiction



# The people who know health care the best, say the Republican repeal bill is the worst

- AARP: "On top of the hefty premium increase for consumers, big drug companies and other special interests get a sweetheart deal."
- ▶ AMA: The House GOP Repeal Bill Is "Critically Flawed."
- <u>America's Essential Hospitals</u>: "Could Result In Deep Funding Cuts For Essential Hospitals...Individuals And Families - Especially The Vulnerable - Could Suffer. Communities Could Suffer, As Well."
- Federation Of American Hospitals: "We Have Significant Issues With This Legislation."
- American College Of Physicians: "AHCA Will Have A Tremendous Negative Impact On Access, Quality, And Cost Of Care."
- American Cancer Society: "These bills have the potential to significantly alter the affordability, availability and quality of health insurance available to cancer patients and survivors."
- American Lung Association: "Low-Income Americans Living With Lung Disease Would Have No Guarantees They Would Continue To Have Quality And Affordable Health Care."
- Consumers Union: "House ACA Bill Would Gut Access And Coverage While Driving Up Consumer Costs."
- ▶ <u>J. Mario Molina</u>, CEO Of Molina Healthcare: "This Is Going To Destabilize The Marketplace."



# Resources for talking points

- Community Catalyst: GOP's American Health Care Act Impacts on Key Populations and Issues, Talking Points on Older Adults, Medicaid, People with Disabilities (PDF - will send in follow up)
- ► Families USA's: Top Line Talking Points: The American Health Care Act (PDF will send in follow up) and Blog <a href="here">here</a> and <a href="here">here</a>
- http://familiesusa.org/product/talking-points-cbo-score-american-healthcare-act
- ► Health Care for America Now: <u>Talking Points on the Republican Bill to Gut the</u> ACA and Slash Medicaid
- ► Shriver Brief: The GOP's Health Plan: An Attack on Health Equity for Women
- http://protectourcareil.org/index.php/resources/
- https://twitter.com/ProtectILCare





# Advocacy 101

Maxx Boykin, Community Advocacy and Social Justice Manager, AIDS Foundation of Chicago





## What now?

- Rallying is great—if it helps us get organized
- Don't underestimate the importance of political education
- Keep up to date with new policies
- Support existing campaigns—and stay on message with them
- Don't limit yourself to one form of action
- Donate directly to resisting communities
- Center the leadership of the most impacted
  - ► Actions that don't center the impacted endanger them

Find more here at: <a href="https://radfag.com/2016/11/21/tips-for-joining-the-movement/">https://radfag.com/2016/11/21/tips-for-joining-the-movement/</a>
protectourcareil.org



# Action steps

- Voting
- Canvassing / Surveying
- ► Tell Your Story
- Phonebanking!
- Community Meetings
- Town Halls
- Form Coalitions
- Rallying
- Advocate and Activate!









## What is advocacy?

- Advocacy is defined as public support for or recommendation of a particular cause or policy
- There are many kinds of advocacy and ways to make your voice heard
  - Many theories and frameworks of advocacy
    - ► Self-advocacy
    - Systems advocacy
    - ► Legislative advocacy
      - ▶ Speaking with elected representatives senators and representatives – to make laws and policies that support our communities. Our elected officials have the power to make these changes, and we want to speak truth to power



## Legislative advocacy

Presenting your story to your legislator

 Talking about how these <u>policies/funding cuts affect</u> your every day life

Asking them to work on your behalf



## How can you advocate?

#### Meet

Schedule a meeting with elected officials. Face-to-face meetings are personal and often have the greatest impact.

#### Invite

Ask an elected official to visit your HIV/AIDS organization or view a program.

#### Write

Write an **email**, **letter** or **postcard** to elected officials, candidates or a newspaper about the need for HIV/AIDS services that support save lives and keep people healthy.

#### Call

A **30-second phone call** to an elected official's office can make an impact. Make a clear "ask" for support of your issue—or thank your representative for supporting your issue.

#### Vote

One of the most important ways you can make a difference is to exercise your right to vote.



## Illinois delegation

Senior Senator
<a href="Richard Durbin">Richard Durbin</a>(D)

Junior Senator\*
<u>Tammy Duckworth</u> (D)

1<sup>st</sup> District
Bobby Rush (D)

2<sup>nd</sup> District Robin Kelly (D)

3<sup>rd</sup> District

Daniel Lipinski (D)

4<sup>th</sup> District
Luis Gutiérrez(D)

5<sup>th</sup> District
Mike Quigley (D)

6<sup>th</sup> District

Peter Roskam (R)

7<sup>th</sup> District

**Danny Davis** (D)

8<sup>th</sup> District

R. Krishnamoorthi

(D)

9<sup>th</sup> District

Jan Schakowsky (D)

10<sup>th</sup> District

**Bradley Schneider** 

(D)

11<sup>th</sup> District

Bill Foster (D)

12<sup>th</sup> District

Mike Bost (R)

13<sup>th</sup> District

Rodney Davis (R)

14<sup>th</sup> District

Randy Hultgren (R)

15<sup>th</sup> District

John Shimkus (R)

Democrats: 13

Republicans: 7

16<sup>th</sup> District

Adam Kinzinger (R)

17<sup>th</sup> District

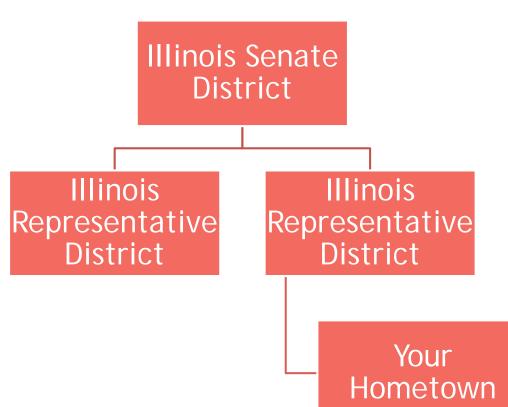
Cheri Bustos (D)

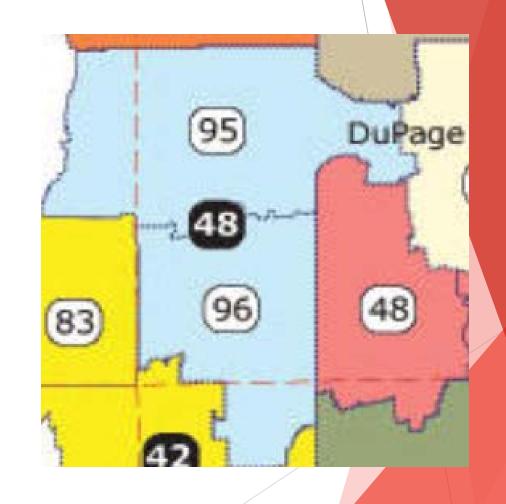
18<sup>th</sup> District

Darin LaHood (R)



## Legislative district (State of Illinois)







#### Tell your story

- Make it personal
  - ► Talk about who you are and what expertise you bring (as a person living with HIV, someone working in the field, a concerned community member).
- Practice!
  - Go over your fact sheets, your story, and YOUR ASK!
- Offer Solutions
  - what's working, and what can be done better
- ► Keep it short
  - ► To-the-point, profound statements may have more impact and help a legislator remember your message





#### The ask

- Your story is what will illustrate why this ask is important
- After telling our stories to humanize the issues, we want the legislator to take concrete action with law or policy
- Directly ask if you can count on that legislator's support
- Thank the member for their time, even if they do not support your issue



## How to talk to legislators

FIRST remember they are

people too







protectourcareil.org



#### What can you talk about?

- How access to healthcare and health insurance have helped you or someone in your community
- What would happen to you and others if the ACA is repealed and replaced with a worst bill
- Push for them to not vote for bills that will leave less people with care!
- What positive things will continue if these funds are protected



## Tips for digital advocacy

- Include others
  - ► Tag and @:
    - ► Your legislators and other legislators
    - ► Key advocates
    - Organizations
    - ► Media
- Retweet, favorite and share others messages
- Use the hashtags on all social media
- Post images and videos!



## We don't always agree

- Social media is a dialogue.
  - Don't post it before you're ready to talk about it
  - Provide your unique take on the issue
  - Leave messages open ended Ask a question.
- Not the response you wanted?
  - Always respond
  - Don't unfriend/unfollow detractors
  - Don't delete comments
- Beware of TROLLS
  - ▶ If they are not contributing to the conversation and actively trying to undermine the purpose of the dialogue...Ignore the aforementioned rules!





## Town halls training

Scott Cross, Volunteer Lead, Organizing for America-Springfield





#### **TOWN HALLS**

When members of Congress (MOCs) are back in their districts during a congressional recess, many hold public meetings such as town halls, listening sessions, and office hours.

These events are opportunities for constituents to interact directly with their MOCs and their sta, ask questions about where they stand on issues, share concerns, and press for answers on policy proposals, legislation, and their stances on upcoming votes.



#### Prep for the town hall meeting

- Form a group of fellow constituents
  - Asking others to join you at a town hall meeting will help amplify your message and shows more community support for the issue you care about—and gives you more chances to ask a question on the record.
- Prepare questions for your group to ask All questions should be specific and on a single issue.
- Fuse personal story with targeted policy specific questions.

  Questions should include how you personally will be impacted by a policy. Your personal story is a powerful organizing tool that helps you connect with others and move them to take action, including MOCs.
- Get a commitment. Questions should be pointed and end with asking for a commitment from the MOC. For example, "will you commit you will not take away health insurance from 24 million Americans, including thousands right here in this district?"



#### At the town hall meeting

- Get there early & Spread Out
- No big posters or signs if get into a Townhall & Stick to script

  Bring 8 by 10 paper "I agree" and "I disagree." This helps media
  & Rep see visualize your concerns.
- Be respectful and persistent Record Everything
- Stick to the script & your prepared questions.

  Afterwards Share what you heard on social media and with reporters including your personal story.





#### Tele-Town Halls - What To Do?

TIP: If MoC deflects, people waiting to ask a question should repeat the last caller's question and urge an answer.

- 1. Have a community action group plan.
- 2. Tele-Townhalls happen on 24 hour or less notice.
- 3. Organize listening sessions in a pre-determined place and call media to gauge public reaction to questions.
- 4. Constituents ready to respond with Letters to the Editor.



#### What to say when calling your member of Congress

They first need to know your are a constituent.

- Give them Your Full Name
- Address with ZIP CODE
- What issue you are calling about.





#### Share your story

- 1 You urge MoC to save the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare) and want them to vote NO on it's repeal and why.
- 2 You urge Moc to VOTE NO on the American Heath Care Act currently before Congress many are calling (TrumpCare) and your reason why.
- 3- You urge your MoC to commit to an IN-PERSON Townhall before ANY vote to repeal or replace OBAMACARE and why.

Personalize. Localize. Have your family member make a separate call and do the same thing.



## Statewide Day of Action! Protect Our Care Coalition ObamaCare 7th Anniversary Rallies



- 1 -Rallies in Districts around the state
- 2 -Make The Call to your Reps
- 3 -Schedule a Constituent Visit
- 4 -Write Letter to the Editor
- 5 -Share Pics from events on Social Media

#ProtectOurCare



# Activity in Champaign-Urbana: A new grassroots movement

Kathleen Winters, Volunteer, The People's Agenda-Champaign



## Formation of new groups

- Action for a Better Tomorrow: East Central Illinois Voices
- ► C-U Indivisible
- ► Invisible IL-13
- ► Listen Up, from District 13
- ► IL 13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Constituents
- ► The People's Agenda (not new, but reinvigorated!)



#### Examples of events since Jan. 2017

- ABT: ECIV ACA letter initiative
- Women's March CU
- Sit-In at Congressman Davis's Champaign Office
- Town Hall Series
- Push to revitalize CC Dems
- ► TPA informational meeting for local elections
  - Provided info on candidates for Urbana mayoral primary
  - Provided info about April 4<sup>th</sup> municipal elections



## Where's Rodney?





## How to get involved

- ► Connect with like-minded local groups
- ► Choose one or two issues you are passionate about
- Make a pledge to call your reps at least once a week
  - ► Keep a list of items you want to call about
  - Add your local, state, and federal reps to your contacts list for ease of dialing



#### How to plan an event

- It doesn't take much to plan a successful event!
- Consider how date/time can affect attendance
- ► Ensure your event has a specific message
  - Are you trying to achieve a specific result?
  - Or are you trying to draw attention to
    - ► Your group?
    - A specific issue?
    - Something else?
- Craft a press release
- Cross-post the event
- ► Follow up with the press after the event



Just start! Doing something, even something small, is better than doing nothing at all



## How Protect Our Care can help you!

Maxx Boykin, Community Advocacy and Social Justice Manager, AIDS Foundation of Chicago



#### Protect Our Care Illinois

- www.ProtectOurCareIL.org
- Resources:
  <a href="http://protectourcareil.org/index.php/resources/">http://protectourcareil.org/index.php/resources/</a>
- Take Action: http://protectourcareil.org/index.php/take-actionpage/
- ► Share your story: <a href="http://www.ilcha.org/share">http://www.ilcha.org/share</a>

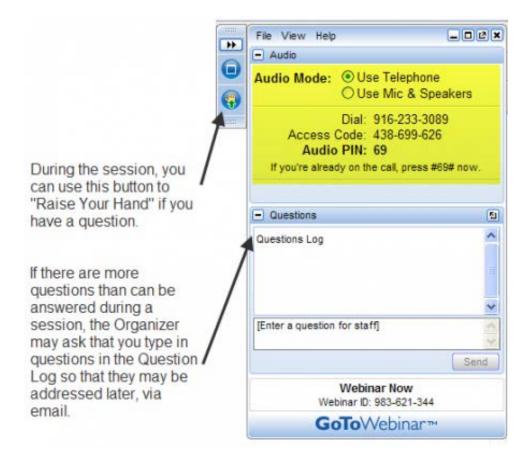


#### Take action!

- ► Call the Capitol switchboard, 202-224-3121, to talk to your legislators
  - http://ziplook.house.gov/htbin/findrep?ZIP Link for zip code for legislator lookup
- ► Letter to the Editor / Op-Eds/
- ► March 23<sup>rd</sup> Actions



## Use the question feature to ask questions





Thank you!