

DEFEND AMERICA *ACTION*

Dear Speaker Mike Johnson and Senate Majority Leader John Thune:

We are writing to you today as state legislators representing millions of Americans who are experiencing a manufactured health care crisis as a result of your actions, including millions of younger Americans who stand to be devastated by either a loss of coverage or exorbitant premium increases.

On November 1, open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) 2026 plans will begin, with massive increases in health care premiums expected because of your refusal to extend tax credits that millions rely on to afford coverage. Your decision to end these tax credits will cause immediate and devastating harm, directly resulting in Americans across the country either losing their health coverage entirely or facing unaffordable premium hikes. After November 1, it will be too late to reverse the harm, as millions of Americans will choose needlessly expensive plans or drop their coverage altogether.

Enhanced premium tax credits have been wildly successful. Following their implementation, America's uninsured rate fell to an all-time low and a record 21.3 million people signed up for coverage. Eliminating these credits punishes hardworking families who will now face impossible choices, like paying for a doctor's visit or purchasing basic necessities. These and other GOP-supported cuts to health care are taking place at the same time billionaires are receiving massive tax breaks, Argentina is getting a \$40 billion bailout, and Donald Trump and members of his administration are spending hundreds of millions of dollars on personal luxuries.

This impending health care crisis is particularly acute for young Americans. Many are just beginning their careers, working in the gig economy, are self-employed, trying to start a small business, or are in positions requiring they purchase coverage on health care exchanges set up by the ACA. The ACA has been a lifeline for them, providing a pathway to affordable coverage and financial security. By killing these tax credits, you are pulling the rug out from under a generation already facing an affordability crisis as a result of rising costs due to Trump's tariffs. Forcing them to go uninsured or pay exorbitant premiums could saddle them with medical debt that would haunt them for decades, stifling their ability to save, buy homes, and participate fully in our economy.

Let us be clear: this is a conscious choice on your part to rip away health care from the American people. Allowing these credits to expire will dismantle the progress we have made and plunge Americans into financial instability and uncertainty. It is a cruel and calculated decision that prioritizes billionaires' tax breaks over the health and financial well-being of the American people you are supposed to serve.

The solution is straightforward, and the deadline is imminent. You must immediately pass a clean extension of the enhanced ACA tax credits before open enrollment begins on November 1, after which it will be too late. The health of millions is at stake.

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Signed,

Rep. Noah Arbit (Michigan)

Del. Dylan Behler (Maryland)

Rep. Bryce Berry (Georgia)

Rep. Ryan Bizzarro (Pennsylvania)

Del. Adrian Boafu (Maryland)

Rep. Tim Brennan (Pennsylvania)

Rep. Kelly Cassidy (Illinois)

Del. Lorig Charkoudian (Maryland)

Rep. Tina M. Davis (Pennsylvania)

Rep. Jeremy Dean (Missouri)

Rep. Flavia DeBrito (Maine)

Sen. Fabian Donato (Nevada)

Rep. Ryan Fecteau (Maine) – Speaker of the Maine House

Rep. Justin Fleming (Pennsylvania)

Rep. Dan Frankel (Pennsylvania)

Rep. Gary Friedmann (Maine)

Rep. Drew Gattine (Maine)

Rep. Daniel Grossberg (Kentucky)

Del. Pam Guzzone (Maryland)

Rep. Nancy Gutierrez (Arizona)

Rep. Heath Howard (New Hampshire)

Sen. Henry Ingwersen (Maine)

Sen. Cathy Kipp (Colorado)

Del. Jeffrie Long (Maryland)

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Rep. Marc Malon (Maine)

Del. Ashanti Martinez (Maryland)

Rep. Jason Morgan (Michigan)

Sen. Jeremy Moss (Michigan) – President Pro Tempore, Michigan Senate

Rep. Adam Moore (Kentucky)

Del. Joseline Peña-Melnyk (Maryland)

Del. N. Scott Phillips (Maryland)

Rep. Ray Reed (Missouri)

Rep. Manny Rutinel (Colorado)

Rep. David A. Sinclair (Maine)

Sen. Art Staed (Iowa)

Rep. Arvind Venkat, MD (Pennsylvania)

Del. Joe Vogel (Maryland)

Rep. Joe Webster (Pennsylvania)

Del. Jheanelle Wilkins (Maryland)

Del. Kayla Young (West Virginia)

Sen. Mike Zimmer (Iowa)