

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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Good, Bad and Ugly of the GOP Replacement Plan

Citizens' Council for Health Freedom: The American People Did Not Ask for a 'Fix,' But for Full Repeal of Obamacare

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Those against repealing Obamacare are gleeful this week after the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that “24 million fewer people will have health insurance by 2026 under the House GOP plan to replace Obamacare,” reported Forbes.com.

Forbes added that the projection is not surprising and “quite likely overstated,” and that the CBO actually makes the bill look “better than expected,” with points showing how the bill can be improved.

Citizens' Council for Health Freedom (CCHF, www.cchfreedom.org), a national health freedom and patient advocacy organization, which has long called for the full repeal of Obamacare, says that the CBO has missed the mark before, unable to gauge how a health insurance marketplace should work. Forbes reported the same in its [coverage](#).

“The CBO has issued inaccurate predictions of the cost of Obamacare and enrollment in Obamacare exchanges, despite repeated revisions,” said CCHF president and co-founder Twila Brase. “Yes, repeal will cause Americans to go through changes, but Obamacare changed people’s lives for the worse, from prices to coverage to choices about care. Repealing Obamacare will release the federal controls and give Americans back the affordable catastrophic coverage they lost when it was prohibited by the ACA. Therefore, it is crucial to repeal Obamacare completely.

“The only thing the American people actually asked for in the last three elections was repeal,” Brase continued. “And repeal isn’t even in this bill, except for the individual and employer mandates and almost all the taxes. Nothing about the Republican bill speaks to the hearts and minds of the American people hurting from impossibly high premiums and dangerously narrow networks. Americans voted for Republicans because they wanted repeal. This replacement bill looks and feels like a Republican version of Obamacare. Republicans should pass a real repeal bill, or they’ll find themselves on the losing end of this debate, along with the American people.”

Brase, also a policy advisor for the Heartland Institute, offered the “Good, Bad and the Ugly” of the GOP plan.

The Good

- Zeroes out individual mandate, although does not repeal it because of the limitations on use of budget reconciliation bills

- Doubles the amount of money taxpayers can contribute to Health Savings Accounts (HSAs)
- Repeals almost all Obamacare taxes, but the repeal won't take effect until 2018

The Bad

- Keeps state and federal Obamacare health insurance exchanges
- Makes taxpayers vulnerable to insurer lawsuits and bailouts by retaining risk corridors and reinsurance language
- Keeps but modifies language on pre-existing conditions

The Ugly

- Fails on the promise to repeal Obamacare

“GOP lawmakers are trying to fix Obamacare rather than get rid of it,” Brase said. “Their plan boasts that it eliminates the individual mandate, but it creates another mandate of its own. The difference is that the 30 percent penalties go directly to the insurer rather than the government. The American people asked for repeal, but with this bill the GOP is issuing its own federal mandates and its own federal requirements.”

Read more from Brase in the recent [CCHF eNews Commentary](#) titled, “What GOP ‘Repeal’ Bill is Missing.”

CCHF has launched *The Wedge of Health Freedom* (www.JointheWedge.com) to transform the entire health care system back to freedom and restore simplicity, affordability and confidentiality. Nearly 200 [Wedge practices](#), where patients can find affordable, patient-centered care, are located in 44 states and listed online.

CCHF is a national patient-centered health freedom organization existing to protect health care choices, individualized patient care, and medical and genetic privacy rights. For more information about **CCHF**, visit www.cchffreedom.org, its [Facebook](#) page or its Twitter feed @CCHFfreedom. Also view the [media page for CCHF here](#). For more about *The Wedge of Health Freedom*, visit www.JointheWedge.com, *The Wedge* [Facebook](#) page or follow *The Wedge* on Twitter @wedgeoffreedom.

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CCHF president and co-founder Twila Brase, R.N., has been called one of the “100 Most Powerful People in Health Care” and one of “Minnesota’s 100 Most Influential Health Care Leaders.” A public health nurse, Brase has been interviewed by CNN, Fox News, Minnesota Public Radio, NBC Nightly News, NBC’s Today Show, NPR, New York Public Radio, the Associated Press, Modern Healthcare, TIME, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The Washington Times, among others. She is at the forefront of informing the public of crucial health issues, such as intrusive wellness and prevention initiatives in Obamacare, patient privacy, informed consent, the dangers of “evidence-based medicine” and the implications of state and federal health care reform

For more information or to interview Twila Brase, president and co-founder of *Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom*, contact Deborah Hamilton at 215-815-7716 or 610-584-1096, or Beth Harrison at 610-584-1096, Media@HamiltonStrategies.com.