August 7, 2017

About that Skinny Repeal.

Republicans have never put a real repeal up for a vote. That’s correct. Ignore the news. They’ve only voted on partial repeals – under Obama and under Trump.

The so-called “Skinny Repeal” bill that the U.S. Senate voted on 11 days ago was an appeasement bill. It contained just enough things that all sorts of people would like that much of the fire against Obamacare would have been extinguished – for the moment. But it would only have repealed a slush fund.

Even the individual and employer mandates and penalties would have stayed in law. They put the penalty down to zero, but another Congress could easily increase it to its current level or higher. That’s not repeal.