Messages on Graham-Cassidy

* The Graham-Cassidy bill is bad for STATE kids and families. It will raise the cost of health insurance and take coverage away altogether from children, seniors, people with disabilities and those who can least afford it.
* It eliminates the tax credits that help many middle-class families cover the cost of their health coverage. Without this financial help, [STATE RESIDENTS] will be forced to go without insurance and forgo needed care.
* FOR EXPANSION STATES: The bill ends Medicaid expansion here in [STATE] and further hits us by taking away federal funds and redistributing them to states that chose not to expand their program. It’s a backwards notion that rewards inaction and will end up ripping coverage away from [STATE RESIDENTS] who need it. [ADD DETAILS ON HOW MUCH FUNDING WOULD BE CUT FROM [CBPP REPORT](https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/like-other-aca-repeal-bills-cassidy-graham-plan-would-add-millions-to-uninsured)]
* It proposes the same massive cuts to Medicaid that have been rejected time and again. This bill would strip billions of dollars in federal funding from all states and kick kids, seniors and people with disabilities off their health coverage. Americans have already sent the message loud and clear: it is unacceptable to shred our safety net and take coverage away from the kids, seniors and families in our communities who need it most.
* This plan does nothing to improve the Affordable Care Act or lower health costs. Instead, it would turn it into a block grant that gives states significantly less money to pay for health care than they receive today, with funds declining over time and disappearing altogether in 10 years. If there is a hurricane or other natural disaster, a lifesaving, but expensive prescription drug, even if there’s an economic downturn – states are out of luck. They will be forced to raise state taxes or cut vital services.
* In addition to threatening Medicaid and Marketplace coverage, Graham-Cassidy is also derailing current efforts to renew funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP, or NAME in STATE). CHIP funding must be renewed by September 30 or kids’ coverage will be at risk. Last week, a bipartisan agreement was reached to extend CHIP funding for five years. With just X legislative days left in September, Congress has a choice to make: support coverage for kids and families by protecting Medicaid and renewing funding for CHIP or decimate our nation’s safety net and kick kids, seniors and people with disabilities off their coverage. [STATE] families can’t afford the latter.
* This bill was crafted like the others before it – behind closed doors and without input from our nation’s health care experts. Now the GOP is trying to rush it through in just two weeks. This is not how you reform America’s health care system. And it’s not how we take care of our most vulnerable.
* Any efforts to move forward on health reform must be done in a bipartisan manner, with a commitment to protect Medicaid, CHIP and the consumer protections that are so important for our kids and families.

TWITTER

#GrahamCassidy is a dangerous attempt to repeal #ACA coverage that would leave [STATE] kids & families w/o critical #healthcare protections.

@[STATE GOV] @[SENATOR] #GrahamCassidy is not the answer: [STATE] simply can’t afford the massive #Medicaid cuts that come w/ this bill.

#GrahamCassidy is already showing how dangerous it is to kids' #healthcare by threatening the #CHIP renewal

FACEBOOK

There’s no way around it: the Graham-Cassidy bill is disastrous for [STATE] kids and families. Like those before it, this bill will raise the cost of health insurance and take coverage away from those who can least afford it—all while doing nothing to improve the ACA. #GrahamCassidy #Healthcare

Successful health care reform does not happen behind closed doors, and is not rushed through Congress. Graham-Cassidy is a last-ditch effort to repeal ACA that would devastate state budgets and leave vulnerable [STATE-ANS] without health insurance. #GrahamCassidy #Healthcare

#GrahamCassidy is already threatening kids’ #healthcare by disrupting progress on the bipartisan #CHIP funding renewal effort. See Georgetown CCF’s blog post here -> <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2017/09/18/progress-on-chip-extension-threatened-by-graham-cassidy-repeal-effort/>