



Michigan League FOR Human Services

January 12, 2011

The Honorable Justin Amash  
U.S. House of Representatives  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Amash:

I am writing on behalf of the Michigan League for Human Services, a network of more than 1,500 organizations, to encourage you to oppose any efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. This law has the potential to do enormous good for the country and for your constituents, ranging from children who can no longer be denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition, to young adults (to age 26) who now have or can gain coverage through their parent's employer-sponsored plans, to previously uninsured adults with serious/chronic medical conditions who have gained comprehensive coverage through the state's high risk pool (Health Insurance Plan for Michigan) administered by Physicians Health Plan of Mid-Michigan, to the elderly and disabled who will have more options for community care, to seniors who gained new Medicare benefits and assistance with their high drug costs, in time including closure of the Medicare Part D "donut hole."

The Affordable Care Act, with its focus on affordable coverage, is particularly critical for Michigan with our increasing decline in employer-sponsored coverage. Michigan ranks No. 1 in the number of people, nearly 1 million, who have lost employer coverage over the period 2000-01 to 2008-09.

Consumers are just beginning to experience the benefits of the Affordable Care Act, including more freedom and control in their health care choices, and making insurance companies accountable. Recent polls indicate **the American people do not want the law repealed**. It would be tragic to return to a broken system.

We encourage you to focus on improving the law, not repealing it. In addition, repeal of the Affordable Care Act, according to the Congressional Budget Office, would significantly increase projected budget deficits for the foreseeable future.

We urge you to stand up for your constituents who may have just gained coverage for their cancer treatment through the high risk pool; for children with pre-existing conditions who may have just gained coverage for their conditions; for young adults who may have just gained coverage through their ability to remain on their parent's employer-sponsored plans until age 26; for your senior citizen constituents who are now able to access key preventive services and an annual physical without a deductible or copay. Don't take these important benefits away from your constituents. Oppose passage of H.R. 2.

If you would like information on the Affordable Care Act to share with your constituents, we would be happy to assist. Feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gilda Z. Jacobs".

Gilda Z. Jacobs  
President and CEO

cc: Senator Carl Levin  
Senator Debbie Stabenow