



January 21, 2011

Dear Constituent,

The United States health care system is the best in the world. Each year, people from all over the world come to our country to receive a level of treatment and care that cannot be found elsewhere. Unfortunately, in 2010, the Democrat-led 111<sup>th</sup> Congress and President Obama enacted an overreaching health care law that threatens the quality and accessibility of health care in this country.

In November, the American people made it clear that while they support common-sense improvements to the health care system, they do not believe it should be paid for by increasing taxes, slashing Medicare, and imposing costly new mandates on individuals, families, and employers. Having heard their concerns, the Republican House Majority passed legislation this week to repeal the overhaul that limits patient choice, threatens access to quality care, and fails to contain spiraling health costs.

Despite arguments to the contrary, the Majority supports many of the common-sense reforms that Democrats have argued will be done away with by the repeal of their health care law. In fact, during the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, I co-sponsored legislation that would have provided these consumer protections, including the bans on capping annual or lifetime benefits and rescinding health insurance policies without cause. This alternative legislation would also have made it illegal for insurance companies to deny coverage to someone with prior coverage on the basis of a pre-existing condition without instituting an unconstitutional mandate on individuals to purchase government-approved health insurance.

Another myth is that repeal would be harmful to seniors. However, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Part D prescription drug premiums will increase by an average of 9 percent for all seniors, while the overhaul's changes to the Part D "donut hole" will only benefit one in ten seniors. Furthermore, the health care law itself jeopardizes senior access to care by cutting over \$500 billion from Medicare, which CMS actuaries have warned could cause health care providers to stop treating Medicare patients. For seniors who rely on Medicare Advantage plans, these massive cuts are particularly devastating. It is estimated that as a result of the law's cuts, by 2017, enrollment in Medicare Advantage plans will be reduced by 50 percent. Forcing millions of seniors out of plans they enjoy will not reduce the cost of health care, but does violate the President's promise that those who like their insurance will be able to keep it.

Perhaps the most ludicrous argument against repeal of the health care law is that doing so would increase the deficit. In fact, the health care law is a fiscal train wreck. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) score used by supporters to demonstrate that the overhaul will reduce the deficit doesn't take into account the \$115 billion required to set up and administer the law, including the cost of hiring thousands of IRS agents to enforce the individual and employer mandates. The score also double-counts billions in Medicare "savings" that law supporters simultaneously claim are being used to extend the solvency of Medicare and to offset new insurance subsidy programs. In addition, the law is funded by more than \$70 billion in expected premiums from a new entitlement program that will only start paying out benefits at the end of the time period reviewed by the CBO. Taking into account all of these factors, the health care law will actually increase the deficit by an astounding \$701 billion.

It is vital that this job-destroying health care law be repealed to get our economy back on track, protect patients and health care providers, and reduce health care costs. House Republicans will continue to keep our promise to the American people to do everything possible to restore fiscal sanity while ensuring affordable, quality health care for current and future generations of Americans.

Sincerely,

GARY G. MILLER  
Member of Congress