Draft House Republican Bill to Replace Affordable Care Act Would Undo Major Gains for the Law

Politico, a national political news journal, reported on GOP House draft bill detailing plans to replace the ACA. This is a breaking story and ANA will continue working to provide our members with more details and analyses. For now, this primer details what we know about the bill, and how its provisions compare to ANAs principles for a health system transformation.

The proposed legislation would repeal parts of the ACA, including the individual mandate, all subsidies based on income, and all of ACA’s taxes. The proposed bill would also appropriate $100 billion for state innovation grants and stability program which would, among other things, provide grants so states could operate small group and individual insurance marketplace programs. Some parts proposed of the law would take effect immediately while others would take effect in 2020.

Last week, Speaker Ryan said Republicans would introduce legislation to repeal the ACA when the Congress returns from recess next week.

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<th>Table 1. Comparison of ANA Principles and Draft House GOP Repeal Bill</th>
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<td><strong>ANA Principles</strong></td>
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| I. Ensure universal access to standard package of essential healthcare services for all citizens and residents. | - Repeals Medicaid Expansion.  
- Leaves states to decide essential health benefits while allowing them to create high risk pools for people with pre-existing conditions.  
- Gives tax credits based on age rather than income.  
- Denies coverage of some women’s reproductive health services. |
| II. Optimize primary, community based preventive services while supporting the cost effective use of innovative, technology driven acute hospital based services. | - Uses tax code to discourage use of high cost health services particularly those available through employer based plans.  
- Eliminates funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund within the ACA. |
| III. Ensure mechanisms to stimulate economic use of health care services while supporting those who do not have the means to share in costs. | - Repeals taxes on a wide range of providers and services intended to fund the purchase of affordable healthcare and incentivize healthcare.  
- Increases reliance on health savings accounts, HSAs to fund health insurance and medical out-of-pocket expenses.  
- Forces states to operate individual and small group insurance markets using flat rate federal grant money. |
| IV. Ensure sufficient supply of a skilled workforce to providing high quality healthcare services. | - Provides no details on issues of healthcare workforce development. |