Congress must act due to administration actions that leave million uninsured, say 12 patient groups

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 28, 2018 — A group of 12 patient and consumer groups issued the following statement in response to the Urban Institute report, “The Potential Impact of Short-Term Limited-Duration (STLD) Policies on Insurance Coverage, Premiums, and Federal Spending,” which estimated that nine million fewer Americans would have health insurance in 2019 as a result of the Trump administration’s repeal of the individual mandate and proposed rule on STLD insurance plans:

“This new study unfortunately confirms our worst fears – the administration’s changes to the Affordable Care Act over the past year are destabilizing the health insurance marketplace, jeopardizing coverage and raising costs for millions of Americans. The Urban Institute’s report, released this week, provides ample evidence that the repeal of the individual mandate and efforts to bolster the sale of short-term policies will result in nine million more people without health insurance in 2019. Those with coverage who don’t receive subsidies will pay on average 18 percent more for their premiums. The administration’s actions will effectively end guaranteed access to healthcare for individuals with preexisting conditions.

Congress must act now and pass bipartisan legislation that will stabilize the healthcare marketplaces and ensure that Americans continue to have adequate, affordable and accessible healthcare. Our organizations stand ready to work with lawmakers to accomplish this goal before it’s too late.”

American Diabetes Foundation  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Lutheran Services in America  
March of Dimes  
National Health Council  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Organization for Rare Disorders
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