President's Day Recess 2018

Talking points for Meeting with your Members of Congress on Health Care

This President's Day, members of Congress are coming home to their Districts from February 19-23, 2018.

While members of Congress are home for recess it's a great time to remind them that you are still holding them accountable for their actions on health care. Tell your members that you expect them to deliver on policies that make high-quality, affordable health coverage and care a reality for individuals and families across America.

Congress has also failed to deliver on implementing protections for the Dreamers, people who were brought to America as children by their parents. The Dreamers relied on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program to avoid deportation until this program was ended by President Trump on September 5, 2017. Terminating DACA was an enormous step in the wrong direction that risks undermining the physical, emotional, and economic health of affected individuals and our nation. This recess, tell your members of Congress that it is long overdue that they protect the Dreamers from being separated from their families, their jobs, their schools, and the home they know in America by restoring DACA.

Talking points for Members of Congress on Health Care

- As in 2017, in 2018 constituents want to be sure that Members of Congress are working to improve the quality, affordability, and availability of health care— not considering any action on policies that will take health coverage away or make it more expensive or restrictive for individuals and families.
- We are very concerned that in the President's Budget, his vision for health care does not match the health care vision of the American people.
- President Trump's budget includes proposals to cut coverage for millions and gut protections for people with pre-existing conditions including the Graham-Cassidy plan, which people all across the country have already firmly rejected.
- People across the country have shown their strong support for the Medicaid program to provide care for our country's children, seniors, people with disabilities, and families, but President Trump proposes to cut this coverage for many or put barriers up to accessing it.
- Representative Paul Ryan has announced a vision for health care that would structurally alter the Medicare and Medicaid programs that together provide critical care to seniors, people with disabilities, children, and families, putting at risk the coverage they rely on for their health and wellbeing.

- The health care visions that President Trump and Rep. Ryan have outlined, including further attempts to repeal the ACA and proposals to make Medicaid less available and more restrictive, are out of touch with our values.
- We ask members of Congress speak out against harmful health care proposals that will cut or restrict access to Medicaid and make health care more expensive and less available. We urge you to enact policies that make health coverage more affordable, accessible, and of higher quality.

Talking Points for Members of Congress on the Dream Act

- Congress should enact the bipartisan Dream Act as soon as it returns from recess to protect immigrant youth from deportation and instead create a pathway to citizenship.
- Doctors and communities are reporting dramatically increased stress leading to both mental and physical health issues among immigrant communities, particularly children, due to the Trump administration's actions on immigration.
- The Dream Act should be passed without requiring tradeoffs that create further harm to immigrant communities, risking the Dream Act's goal of keeping families together to the benefit of their health and wellbeing.
- The time to pass protections for Dreamers is long overdue. Young people who have called America home for as long as they can remember are at urgent risk of being deported and Congress must take action to fix this wrong immediately.

Visit FamiliesUSA.org for more resources about these and other health care issues.