FACT SHEET: Graham-Cassidy-Heller Would Devastate West Virginia

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller plan is even worse for the states than previous Republican so-called health care bills. It would cause millions of people to lose their health care coverage, deeply cut Medicaid and other health care funding for states, eliminate or weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and increase out-of-pocket costs for millions of West Virginians.

Over 150 Thousand West Virginians Would Lose Their Health Care Coverage

Previous repeal-without-replace plans would have left 32 million Americans uninsured. The Cassidy-Graham bill would likely result in even deeper coverage losses than that in the second decade because it does the same thing as repeal-without-replacement, but also effectively ends Medicaid.

- In West Virginia, an estimated 156,000 people would lose their coverage in 2027.

West Virginia Would Lose Billions in Health Care Funding

Graham-Cassidy-Heller would make huge cuts to federal health care funding over the next decade and likely be even more damaging than a straight repeal-without-replace bill because it would add large cuts to the rest of Medicaid — on top of eliminating the Medicaid expansion.

- West Virginia would lose $554,000,000 in health care funding in 2026.
- They would lose even more — $2,042,000,000 — in 2027.
- Between 2020-2036, they would lose a whopping $27,000,000,000 in funding.

Over 30,000 West Virginia Seniors Would be Unfairly Penalized with Dramatically Increased Health Care Costs

The plan also discriminates against 6.1 million older Americans in the individual health insurance market by potentially allowing insurance companies to charge older people up to five times what others pay for the same coverage. At the same time, it eliminates tax credits now available to lower and middle-income older people to help pay premium costs.

- About 32,608 West Virginians between the ages of 50 and 64 are enrolled in the individual market and would be impacted by the age tax rating changes.
- In 2015, half of all West Virginians ages 50-64 buying insurance in the individual market had incomes of $28,000 or less a year.
- For a 60 year-old West Virginian earning $25,000, in order to maintain their current health coverage, their health care costs could increase by $18,462 in 2020 due to potential premium and out-of-pocket cost increases.
738 Thousand West Virginians with Pre-Existing Conditions Would Pay Thousands More a Year

Graham-Cassidy-Heller would be devastating for West Virginians with pre-existing conditions. Graham-Cassidy would allow states to eliminate protections for millions with pre-existing conditions, meaning skyrocketing premiums of tens of thousands of dollars or more. There are 737,900 West Virginians with preexisting conditions under the age of 64. Some examples of the surcharges these West Virginians with common preexisting conditions, on average, would face:

- Asthma, increase of $4,340 per year
- Diabetes, increase of $5,600 per year
- Pregnancy, increase of $17,320 per year
- Metastatic cancer, increase of $142,650 per year
- Rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune disorders, increase of $26,580 per year

- Center for American Progress

West Virginia Women Could Lose Coverage, Pay More for Vital Services like Maternity Care and Cancer Screenings

Graham-Cassidy-Heller would let states cut requirements that insurers cover essential health benefits, meaning insurance companies could stop offering maternal care or prescription drug benefits. Thirteen million women nationwide could lose access to maternity care.

Hundreds West Virginia women would also lose access to care because of new restrictions on how they can pay for treatment at Planned Parenthood, often women's only health care option, essentially--barring Medicaid funds for care at Planned Parenthood Clinics.

- 890 people were served by Planned Parenthood of West Virginia clinics.
- 121 cancer screenings were done in Planned Parenthood of West Virginia clinics.

- Planned Parenthood of West Virginia

The Leading Patient and Provider Groups Oppose This Bill

The largest patient advocacy organizations in the United States – organizations with hundreds of thousands of West Virginia members - including the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, and the American College of Physicians - have called on Senators to stand against Graham-Cassidy-Heller. So has the American College of Physicians, the Children's Hospital Association, and the American Association of Retired Persons.

- American Heart Association