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# GOP health plan 'pulls the rug out' from under regular folks

Mar 26, 2017

**Editor, the Tribune:** I am one of the roughly 250,000 Missourians who are purchasing health insurance from the ACA marketplace. Many of us made life-changing decisions based on the availability of this insurance. Most of us will have the rugs pulled out from underneath us if the Republican health care plan becomes law.

In Howell County in southern Missouri, the average age is 41, average income is \$32,000. Currently a 40 year-old husband/wife could purchase a subsidized Silver plan for \$230/month. Anyone can do some quick research on Google and do this math, but because of the higher 5:1 age ratio, loss of subsidy and with a \$6,000 annual Republican tax credit, the insurance cost will be \$1,040/month. This is a 400 percent increase.

I am older, so my wife and I will be looking at \$2,700/month, a 550 percent increase for our health insurance. These costs are impossible to afford. The Republicans made empty promises that "we are not going to pull the rug out from underneath anyone." Well, we 250,000 are about to be tripped up. On the other hand, the top 1 percent income Americans will get a \$33,000/year tax cut, the top .1 percent will get a \$197,000/year tax cut, and the 400 richest people will get a \$7 million/year tax cut. For the rich, this is the dessert of the ACHA, a bigger slice of the pie.

**Earl Fuller,**

**Willow Springs**

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