
Health care bill is flawed

Tom Rowley, Willow Springs Published 1:39 p.m. CT Sept. 23, 2017



(Photo: file)

Dear Senator Blunt & All Missourians,

I am amazed and delighted to learn that almost all of the major doctor, hospital and health organizations are opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. This bill will do nothing to address the needs of low-wage working Missourians who don't currently have health insurance. And it will take needed care away from many who are now able to get it through the ACA. I am a self-employed person whose business has not fully recovered since '08. If not for the ACA, I would simply not have been able to continue coverage.

Missouri did not expand Medicaid. Our rural hospitals are underfunded because of the care they give away.

This brings down the quality of care for us all. Yet the people who put off care until they end up in the emergency room end up in a world of debt that often ends in foreclosure and bankruptcy.

This is bad for our communities. If we are to be a great nation, we must work together to care for all of our people. Too many working citizens in rural Missouri cannot afford insurance. We need to solve the problems rather than repeal something that is very fixable.

Though the ACA improved things, we remain the only developed nation without universal care. Yet we spend a larger percentage of our GDP on health care than any other country. This is wrong but can be fixed!

Please don't throw your people under the bus. Senator Cassidy has not been completely forthcoming with details and outcomes of his bill. At the very minimum, we need a Congressional Budget Office scoring on this and then have a discussion about its merits. Please do the right thing for our low-wage working people. Do not support this flawed bill. Thank you.

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