



For Immediate Release

Media Contacts: Mike Bare (920.242.1639; mbare@communityadvocates.net)

Or Lisa Kaiser (414.460.0294; lkaiser@communityadvocates.net)

Date: March 23, 2017

Congress Shouldn't Pass a Bad Health Bill

Milwaukee—Today, the U.S. House of Representatives may rush to try to pass the American Health Care Act (AHCA), an insufficient replacement to the Affordable Care Act. Community Advocates Public Policy Institute is urging Wisconsin's representatives to vote against the AHCA to prevent it from harming Wisconsinites' health and damaging the state's economy.

"The House of Representatives shouldn't pass a bill that will take us backwards and won't work to reduce health costs and increase coverage rates," said Mike Bare, Research and Program Coordinator for the Institute. "It takes away coverage from 24 million people over the next ten years. The bill raises costs for consumers, especially seniors and small businesses. It guts Medicaid. And it will have a devastating impact on Wisconsin's economy. Members of Congress should vote no."

Bare added, "Wisconsin policymakers should be ready to either respond to federal reforms or finally move to effectively implement the Affordable Care Act (ACA). We are missing opportunities to increase rates of coverage and lower costs for consumers." In July 2015, the Public Policy Institute [released its vision](#) for full and effective implementation of the ACA.

[Community Advocates](#) established the [Public Policy Institute](#) in 2008 to work toward preventing and reducing poverty while improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Milwaukee and throughout Wisconsin. The Public Policy Institute targets poverty by changing relevant public policies and laws; preventing its effects through public health efforts; and working to increase opportunity and wellness for low-income people by fostering factors related to success, resilience, and well-being.

###