

I strongly believe that certain reforms are needed to our nation's health care system and that is why I voted to repeal and improve the health care reform law signed by the President. Too often, New Yorkers who wish to access health insurance are unable to do so because of high costs. This is both unnecessary and unacceptable. However, that the health care law rushed through Congress in 2010 was well-intentioned but ill-conceived.

Troubling for seniors in our district, the law makes deep cuts to Medicare—\$575 billion in cuts according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The law also raises taxes, expands government, increases costs, but does not improve the quality of care.

According to analysis by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the health care law will raise individual health insurance premiums by an average of \$2,100 per family. The law includes mandates that make it harder for small businesses to create jobs.

I support real health care reform that increases access to health care through lower costs, without compromising the ability of our economy to create jobs and put New Yorkers back to work. To that end, I support replacing the current law with reforms that increase access to quality healthcare through more competition and choice. I will support legislation that achieves the following goals:

- Fosters economic growth and private sector job creation
- Lowers premiums through increased competition and choice
- Allows folks with pre-existing conditions access to affordable coverage

- Reforms the medical liability system to reduce unnecessary and wasteful spending
- Preserves the patient's ability to keep a plan if he or she likes it
- Increases the number of insured New Yorkers
- Expands incentives to encourage personal responsibility for health care coverage and costs.

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