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American Health Care Act

American Health Care Act Update

On 5/4/17, the House passed a revised version of the American Health Care Act (AHCA), to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

The new version of the AHCA keeps many of its previous provisions:

Repeals the individual mandate and employer penalty

Changes Medicaid funding to a per-capita cap or block grant basis

Replaces income-based tax credits with age-based credits

Repeals cost-sharing subsidies to assist low and moderate income individuals with out of pocket costs.

Dependents can stay on parents' plans until age 26

American Health Care Act New Provisions

The new version of the AHCA adds the following provisions:

Enables states to allow insurers to increase premiums for individuals with preexisting conditions if they have a break in coverage

Creates an \$8 billion fund to cover high premiums for individuals with pre-existing conditions who are high-risk/high-cost users

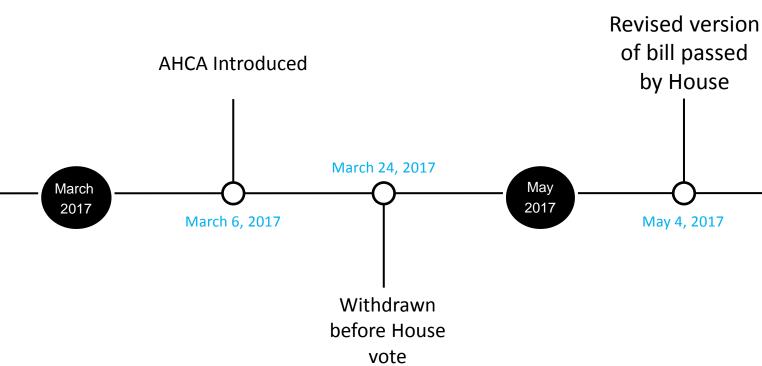
Enables states to change current minimum essential health benefit package

Essential Health Benefits

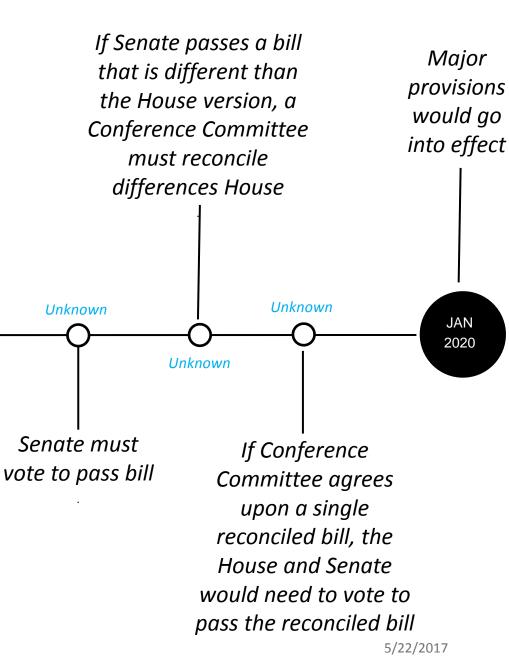
- (1) ambulatory patient services
- (2) emergency services
- (3) hospitalization
- (4) maternity and newborn care
- (5) mental health and substance use
- (6) prescription drugs
- (7) rehabilitative and habilitative srvs
- (8) laboratory services
- (9) preventive care
- (10) pediatric services/w oral and vision care.

American Health Care Act

Potential timeline



The main mechanism for repealing the ACA is the budget resolution. Passing the resolution requires a simple majority vote.



of bill passed

by House

May 4, 2017

KEY TAKEAWAYS



#1

Coverage has not changed. All health insurance programs and benefits remain in place, and we encourage all San Franciscans to use them.



#2

If passed, the AHCA could result in reduced benefits and services, loss of coverage and higher costs, especially for more vulnerable populations.



#3

While passage of the AHCA in the House is significant, this is just the first step of the legislative process.

Federal Budget

Federal Budget Update

On 5/5, the President signed the omnibus spending bill to fund the federal government through 9/30/17, which included:

- \$77.7 billion for the Dept of Health and Human Services.
- A \$2 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health
- A \$650 million increased for fighting opioid abuse
- A small cut to the Centers for Disease Control, but full funding for preparation for pandemics and bioterrorism.

The spending bill does not place restrictions on "sanctuary cities" receiving federal grants, does not defund Planned Parenthood and does not undermine the Affordable Care Act.

Sanctuary Cities

Sanctuary City Update

On 1/13/17, Mayor Lee launched the Equity and Immigrant Services Campaign to serve the legal needs of the City's immigrant community and promote partnerships with community-based organizations.

On 1/31/17, San Francisco sued
President Trump for his
Executive Order which threatens
to withhold federal funding from
sanctuary cities.



On 3/7/17, SF passed legislation to prohibit City employees from cooperating with any government program that requires the creation of a list, registry or database of persons on the basis of their religious affiliation, national origin, or ethnicity.

On 4/25/17, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction which blocks the government from enforcing the Executive Order.

Mayor's Office has been convening city departments and community organizations, to ensure that all San Franciscans, including immigrants, continue to access services in their communities.

Communications

What San Francisco is Doing. . .



Board of Supervisors created a Budget & Finance Federal Select Committee to address potential changes in federal policy.



Tracking and analyzing state and federal policy developments and working with the City's lobbyists to take action.

Conducting a risk assessment and leading budget planning activities.

What you can do. . .

Continue to support your patients, your clients, and your colleagues.

Use only SFDPH-approved communication materials (available on the Post-Election website)

You're Safe Here! Flyer

Message from Barbara Garcia postcard

PowerPoint presentations for staff

Email questions or topics you would like covered in future updates to post-election@sfdph.org



Director Garcia's message to patients & clients



At the Health Department, our mission has not changed. We are dedicated to serving all those in need of care, without regard to immigration or insurance status.



The ACA has made San Francisco healthier and strengthened our social safety net. We are dedicated to maintaining these gains.



We are working with community organizations, the Mayor's office and other city agencies to ensure that all San Franciscans, including immigrants, continue to access services in their communities