The San Francisco Department of Public Health

Post-Election

Update #5, March 28, 2017
Overview of this update

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American Health Care Act (AHCA)
The American Health Care Act

On 3/6/17, House Republican leadership introduced the American Health Care Act (AHCA), to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

On 3/13/17, the Congressional Budget Office projected the legislation would have the following impacts:

- **Increase the number of uninsured** by 14 million in 2018, rising to 24 million in 2026.
- **Increase average premiums** in the nongroup market prior to 2020 and lower average premiums thereafter.
- **Reduce federal deficits** by $337 billion over the 2017-2026 period.
- **Maintain market stability** in the nongroup market in most areas.
## ACA-AHCA Side-by-Side: Coverage Mandates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>Under the ACA</th>
<th>As proposed under the AHCA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDIVIDUAL MANDATE</strong></td>
<td>Requires individuals to have health insurance or pay a tax penalty.</td>
<td>• Repeals the individual mandate.</td>
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<td>• Enacts a continuous coverage requirement that allows insurers to charge 30% more for individuals who were uninsured more than 63 days in the past year. Effective 2016.</td>
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<td><strong>EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY</strong></td>
<td>Imposes a penalty on certain employers not offering employee coverage.</td>
<td>Repeals the employer penalty. Effective 2016.</td>
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### ACA-AHCA Side-by-Side: Medicaid

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| **MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY and FUNDING** | Provides states the option to expand Medicaid eligibility to single adults <138% FPL at enhanced federal matching rates. | • Allows states to continue Medicaid expansion and eliminates enhanced federal funding for new enrollees. Effective 1/2020.  
• Limits federal funding to states by creating a per-capita cap. Effective 2020. |
## ACA-AHCA Side-by-Side: Insurance Subsidies

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| Premium Tax Credits              | Provides income-based tax credits to assist low and moderate income individuals to purchase insurance. | • Repeals income-based tax credits.  
• Creates age-based tax credits. Effective 2020. |
| Cost-Sharing Reduction Payments  | Provides cost-sharing subsidies to assist low and moderate income individuals with out-of-pocket costs. | • Repeals cost-sharing subsidies.  
• Creates the Patient and State Stability Fund that states may use for: high-risk pools, payments to insurers or providers, or cost-sharing subsidies for out-of-pocket costs. Effective 2020. |
Additional Key AHCA Elements

The ACHA would have also:

• Eliminated funding for the Public Health & Prevention Fund
• Defunded Planned Parenthood
• Increased funding for Community Health Centers

The ACHA maintained several ACA insurance reforms, including:

• Coverage for pre-existing conditions
• Guaranteed availability and renewability of coverage
• Coverage of adult children up to age 26
• Cap on out-of-pocket expenditures
AHCA Timeline

AHCA Introduced 3/6/2017

3/9/2017
Passed House Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means Committees

Passed House Budget Committee 3/16/2017

3/22-23/2017
Amended by House Rules Committee

Withdrawn before House vote 3/24/2017

Major provisions would have gone into effect 1/1/2020

4/5/2017
Key Takeaways

The failure to vote on the AHCA bill means that the Affordable Care Act remains in place and efforts to repeal it have stalled.

All health insurance programs and benefits remain in place.

This is a win for 133,000 San Franciscans who obtained ACA-sponsored health insurance:

- 93,000 covered through the Medicaid expansion
- 40,000 people enrolled in Covered California

There are no clear next steps on the effort to repeal the ACA.
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.
Sanctuary City Update
What San Francisco is doing

- On 1/31/17, **San Francisco sued President Trump** for his Executive Order which threatens to withhold federal funding from sanctuary cities.
- On 3/8/17, San Francisco asked for a temporary court order to prevent enforcement or application of the executive order while the case proceeds.

- 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 3/7/17, **San Francisco 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.

- 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.
The SFDPH Post-Election Website posts ACA and Sanctuary City resources (www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/election/)

Frequently updated, most recently with new materials including:

- This presentation
- New version of the Sanctuary City presentation
- Updated policy on Immigration Status and Interaction with ICE Agents
- A toolkit with information and resources from the Human Rights Commission and Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs
- An audio story: Reaffirming San Francisco as a Safe City for Everyone
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](mailto:post-election@sfdph.org)

4/5/2017
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.