

## Republican healthcare bill passed, Obamacare 'dead'

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"I actually think it will get even better".

About 73 million people receive coverage through Medicaid. "Patients will be able to choose their doctor and keep their doctor again". Coverage can not be denied.

Sheldon said her annual diabetic medical supplies cost more than \$12,000, before insurance. "Problem with that is then it's passed on to everyone else", she says.

Douglas Holtz-Eakin, the CBO head under George W. Bush, said he didn't expect the new score to differ much from that given to the original bill, which was pulled ahead of a vote. "I ran a high-risk pool when I was insurance commissioner". Obamacare bars insurers from denying coverage because of existing illness and from charging sick people higher premiums. He has assembled a working group to try to find a consensus, and has said that the Senate will wait for the <a href="Congressional Budget Office">Congressional Budget Office</a> (CBO) to release its analysis of the AHCA before scheduling a vote.

After Republicans regained **the House of Representatives** in 2010, there were dozens of votes to *repeal* part or *all* of *Obamacare*, with majority passing. One of those Americans with a <u>preexisting condition</u>, who also happens to be a U.S. Army veteran who lost both his legs in Kandahar, spoke in favor of the bill and denounced the Democrats' history of bold-faced lies.

Keep nondiscrimination provisions with regard to those who have pre-existing conditions and continue to ban annual and lifetime limits on insurance.

"We do not have enough for Medicare, we do not have enough for Social Security, we do not have enough for Medicaid - before we got started on the expansion of Medicaid", Paul said Friday during a speech at the Cato Institute.

She and her team of volunteers are continuing their work, as they did previous year, providing training, education and **signing up** individuals who qualify for the special enrollment period which is going on right now.

While it's unclear what, if anything, will survive of the bill, the portion that deals with preexisting conditions is getting a lot of play on social media. They did an impressive job of moving the bill toward their position, but what nearly *all* of them voted for Thursday was still considerably short of what their ideal bill would have been.

There is no effort to include Democrats in the Senate process because Republicans want to approve the legislation on a simple majority vote, but that increases the political risks for Republicans.

"What we have is something very, very incredibly well-crafted", <u>Trump said</u> of the bill. In addition, it is very good that the bill at least temporarily defunds the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood, and defends the Hyde <u>Amendment's</u> prohibition of federal government funds supporting abortion.

Rep. G.A. Hardaway of Memphis was the only Democrat to vote against the bill. It would cut the Medicaid program for low-income people and let states impose work requirements on Medicaid recipients. Maybe some people are under the impression after yesterday's House vote that *ObamaCare* is already *repealed*, or that Senate passage of the AHCA is a mere formality. "They could have <u>proposed</u> a Senate bill at any <u>time</u>".

As it became clear during Thursday's vote that the bill was going to pass, Democrats began taunting members of their rival party by singing "Na na na na, na na na na, hey hey hey, goodbye", the lyrics to a 1969 song by Steam, which is often heard at sporting events. "In the last week to 10 days, *all* the discussion in the House has been about pre-existing conditions, and the discussion in the Senate from Day One has been about Medicaid cuts and what that means", Hobson said. "With that sort of situation, you knew that what the House was doing wasn't going to make it". A bill that didn't do the things the White House supposedly demanded of it, such as really cover pre-existing conditions and raise standards and lower costs for everyone. HSAs are especially important because, he said, "If you don't have any choices in the individual market, you need to figure out a way to give people choices".