



## Harris Vote

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**To the editor:** I am very disappointed that our representative, Dr. Andy Harris, has chosen to follow the blind by voting to repeal the Affordable Care Act before a fact-based analysis of the possible consequences of the bill has been presented to the public.

In the case of H.R. 1628, Congressman Harris has chosen to play the role of politico rather than that of a well-informed trustee that his constituents deserve. In a press release, Dr. Harris claims, to have “voted in favor of legislation that will immediately lower premiums and begin to fix our broken health insurance system”. He is quoted by the Baltimore Sun as saying “Premiums are going to come down. We’re going to restore sanity to how insurance premiums are priced.”

Sounds great, but, numerous GOP congressmen admit that they haven’t even read through the bill, let alone, fully understand what they are voting for. The Congressional Budget Office hasn’t even weighed in with a formal analysis of what the real impact might be.

So, what’s the big hurry?

I would think such reckless action amounts to a big gamble for any representative who hopes to keep his or her seat in 2018.

When interest groups and professional organizations such as the American Medical Association, AARP, the American Hospital Association and many others strongly oppose the bill, for a variety of reasons — and even conservative think tanks such as Cato Institute have come out against it — one would expect a true representative of the people to proceed with great caution before voting “yes” on such a politically charged question.

I applaud the courageous Republicans in Congress who recognize their duty to their constituents by voting against H.R. 1628.