

REP. DAVIS AGAINST THE REPEAL OF HEALTH CARE REFORM “ TOUTS THE BENEFITS FOR THE CHICAGOLAND AREA

January 6, 2011

Rep. Davis on the Republican repeal of healthcare reform

The health reform legislation, passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama in March of 2010, will ensure that all Americans have access to quality, affordable health care and will create the transformation within the health care system necessary to contain costs. The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has determined that it will provide coverage to 32 million more people, or more than 95% percent of Americans, while lowering health care costs over the long term and reducing the deficit by \$138 billion through 2019, with \$1.2 trillion additional deficit reduction in the following 10 years. According to nonpartisan CBO, the repeal will add \$230 billion to the deficit by 2021.

The 7th district has 21 hospitals, four medical schools, 92 community health center sites, and of course, world class research institutes. Therefore, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is very important to the quality of life for the people in my district. This healthcare law provides the following benefits to my constituents:

- Improves coverage for 334,000 residents with health insurance.
- Give tax credits and other assistance to up to 158,000 families and 14,100 small businesses to help them afford coverage.
- Improves Medicare for 76,000 beneficiaries, including closing the donut hole. Extends coverage to 52,000 uninsured residents.
- Guarantee that 11,500 residents with pre-existing conditions can obtain coverage.
- Protect 1500 families from bankruptcy due to unaffordable health care costs.
- Allow 60,000 young adults up to the age of 26 to obtain coverage on their parents' insurance plans.
- Provides millions of dollars in new funding for 92 community health centers.
- Reduces the cost of uncompensated care for hospitals and other health care providers by \$222 million annually.

The Affordable Care Act will help begin to fill in the Medicare Part D drug doughnut hole to reduce the cost burden for 76,000 beneficiaries in my district. It's going to extend coverage to 52,500 uninsured individuals who currently go to the county hospital and other medical facilities.

My congressional district is the largest medical center district in the country and trains many medical personnel. As a matter of fact, at the University of Illinois of Chicago, we train more African American physicians than anybody else in the country other than Meharry Medical College and Howard University Medical School. We train nurses, inhalation therapists and medical personnel.

This legislation is the most impactful health legislation that we have seen since Medicare and Medicaid and it would help reduce the deficit. Poor inner city citizens will now have access and the opportunity to purchase an affordable healthcare plan to cover their family and loved ones.

Repeal of the law is irresponsible causing approximately 32 million Americans to lose coverage. Support for and full implementation of the Affordable Care Act is critical to uninsured and underinsured Americans and I reject any efforts by the Republican led Congress to repeal healthcare reform in the 112th Congress.