



**The following statement was jointly released on October 20, 2017 by America's Health Insurance Plans, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Benefits Council, the American Hospital Association, the American Medical Association, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, and U.S. Chamber of Commerce regarding the legislation proposed by Sens. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Patty Murray (D-WA).**

Sens. Alexander and Murray, thank you for your leadership.

Consumers and patients benefit from more affordable care and additional choices in a stable individual health insurance market.

Funding the critical consumer cost-sharing reduction (CSR) benefit will help:

- lower-income patients afford to see their doctor; and
- consumers access more affordable insurance options.

Beyond advancing these important policy priorities, federal spending will be lower if CSR benefits are continuously funded. In contrast, terminating CSR funding will increase our nation's budget deficit by almost \$200 billion over 10 years.

We join together again to urge Congress to take action to enact legislation that includes continued funding for CSR benefits for the rest of 2017 and for at least the next two years (2018-2019).

Health care is a bipartisan priority on which all of us can work together to deliver real solutions and real results.

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