

American College of Preventive Medicine Opposes Proposed MacArthur Amendment to American Health Care Act

May 1, 2017 (Washington, D.C) - The American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) has reviewed the MacArthur amendment to the American Health Care Act (AHCA), and continues to oppose the legislation for many of the same reasons as noted in our [original statement](#) on the AHCA. The amendment actually worsens the original bill by allowing states to opt out of requiring health plans to provide essential health benefits, including clinical preventive services. The amendment would also eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions.

ACPM remains committed to improving our nation's healthcare system and expanding access to preventive services. The MacArthur amendment takes us even farther from these goals than the original AHCA proposal. Legislative efforts to improve our healthcare system must include first-dollar coverage of preventive services, essential health benefits, and protections for all patients, including those with preexisting conditions. As Dr. Daniel Blumenthal, President of ACPM, noted today, "Any legislation that results in fewer benefits and fewer Americans covered is unacceptable."

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About ACPM

[The American College of Preventive Medicine](#) is a professional society providing leadership in research, professional education, development of public policy, and enhancement of standards of preventive medicine for and on behalf of its physician members. Uniquely trained in both clinical medicine and public health, preventive medicine specialists are equipped to understand and reduce the risks of disease, disability, and death in individuals and population groups.