

# New Report: Consumer Advocate Perspective on Health Care Reform

Published: Tuesday, 11 April 2017 10:38

Written by: Questions?

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**Allowing federally licensed association health plans would “strip states of the ability to protect consumers and create competitive markets and should be rejected.”**

— *National Association of Insurance Commissioners*

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Source: National Association of Insurance Commissioners, *Letter to Congress re: ACA Repeal* (Jan. 24, 2017)

As Congress continues to debate changes to the ACA and our health care system, the health and well-being of millions of individuals and families remain at stake. A new report highlights the need for continued access to high-quality health insurance products, from the perspective of consumer advocates. The report, released by National Association of Insurance Commissioners Consumer Representatives,

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reviews the likely impact of proposed ACA repeal placement plans on consumers and state insurance markets. The report discusses:

- What consumers want when it comes to private health insurance;
- The progress that has been made in reducing the uninsured rate since 2010 and the risks of full or partial repeal of the Affordable Care Act;
- Key principles—such as insuring the same number of consumers with the same quality of coverage and minimizing market disruption—that we urge policymakers to apply when considering further changes to the market; and
- Concerns about the impact of potential changes on consumers and state markets, with an emphasis on high-risk pools, continuous coverage requirements, high-deductible health insurance products, association health plans, the sale of insurance across state lines, the loss of essential health benefits protections, and the need for continued nondiscrimination protections.

As a national NAIC Consumer Representative, [Lincoln Nehring](#) was one of the contributing authors on the report. The report urges Federal and State leaders to ensure that all consumers have continued access to quality, affordable health insurance. The full report, *The Need for Continued Consumer Protections and Stability in State Insurance Markets in a Climate of Federal Uncertainty* is available here:  [NAIC Report April 2017](#)

For 30 years now, Voices for Utah Children has called on our state, federal and local leaders to put children's needs first. But the work is not done. The children of 30 years ago now have children of their own. Too many of these children are growing up in poverty, without access to healthcare or quality educational opportunities.

## How can you be involved?

[Make a tax-deductible donation](#) to Voices for Utah Children—or [join our Network](#) with a monthly donation of \$20 or more. Network membership includes complimentary admission to Network events with food, socializing, and opportunity to meet child advocacy experts. And don't forget to [join our listserv](#) to stay informed!

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We look forward to the future of Voices for Utah Children and we hope you will be a part of our next 30 years.

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