Fred Upton has taken more money than almost anyone from big pharma and in turn voted against a bill that would lower prescription drug costs. He has voted repeatedly to destroy the law that protects people with pre-existing conditions. Even during a pandemic, he voted against making it easier for people to get good quality health care.

Open Secrets: Upton Accepted The 2nd Most Amount Of Money From The Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry, Just Behind House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy. According to Open Secrets, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy was the top recipient of contributions from the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry compared to every other member of Congress, ever. Upton followed just behind McCarthy, receiving $971,685. [OpenSecrets, accessed 8/31/20]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McCarthy, Kevin (R-CA)</td>
<td>$972,208</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upton, Fred (R-MI)</td>
<td>$971,685</td>
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[Upton Voted Against Allowing The Federal Government To Negotiate Lower Drug Prices. In December 2019, Upton voted against: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would allow the Health and Human Services Department to negotiate prices for certain drugs under Medicare programs and would make a number of modifications to Medicare programs related to drug costs and plan benefits. Specifically, the bill would establish a fair price negotiation program in which HHS would enter into agreements with drug manufacturers negotiate maximum fair prices for certain drugs.” The motion passed by a vote of 230-192. [HR 3, Vote #682, 12/12/19; CQ, 12/12/19]

The Bill Was A “Major Shift” In Drug Pricing, Allowing The Federal Government To Negotiate Drug Prices Directly For Medicare Recipients And Others Purchasing The Same Drug. “House Democrats have officially introduced their big prescription drug pricing plan, but it’s unclear just how much traction it can get in a divided Congress. Speaker Nancy Pelosi unveiled the proposal on Thursday in a bid to address one of Democrats’ chief 2018 campaign promises: Last fall, lawmakers across the country pledged to bring down the increasingly exorbitant prices voters face for different medications. According to a summary shared by Pelosi’s office, the Democrats’ proposal would mark a major shift in the way prescription drug prices are set in the US by empowering the federal government to directly negotiate drug prices for Medicare recipients as well as others purchasing the drug.” [Vox, 9/19/19]

The Bill Would Cap Seniors’ Out-Of-Pocket Costs For Prescription Drugs At $2,000 Per Year. “It would also cap seniors’ out-of-pocket prescription drug costs at $2,000 a year. And it would require drug companies that have raised their prices above the inflation rate since 2016 to either lower their prices or rebate the portion back to the U.S. Treasury.” [Washington Post, 9/19/19]

Upton Voted Four Times To Fully Repeal The Affordable Care Act.

- **2015:** Upton Voted For Repealing The Affordable Care Act. [HR 596, Vote #58, 2/3/15; CQ, 2/3/15]
- **2013:** Upton Voted For Repealing The Affordable Care Act. [HR 45, Vote #154, 5/16/13; CQ Floor Votes, 5/16/13]
- **2012:** Upton Voted For Repealing The Affordable Care Act. [HR 6079, Vote #460, 7/11/12; CQ, 7/11/12]
- **2011:** Upton Voted For Repealing The Affordable Care Act. [HR 2, Vote #14, 1/19/11; CQ, 1/19/11]
The Affordable Care Act Prevented Insurers From Denying Coverage Or Charging More If An Individual Had A Pre-Existing Condition. “In the old days, insurance companies had ways to avoid selling policies to people who were likely to cost more than insurers wanted to spend. They might deny them coverage outright, or exclude coverage for a known condition, or charge so much that insurance became unaffordable. The Affordable Care Act boxes out the old insurance practices with a package of legal moves. First, it says point-blank that carriers ‘may not impose any preexisting condition exclusion.’ It backs that up with another section that says they ‘may not establish rules for eligibility’ based on health status, medical condition, claims experience or medical history.” [Politifact, 10/17/18]

June 2020: Upton Voted Against The Patient Protection And Affordable Care Enhancement Act. [HR 1425, Vote #124, 6/29/20; CQ, 6/29/20]

The Patient Protection And Affordable Care Enhancement Act Would Help 4 Million People Gain Health Coverage And Would Make Coverage More Affordable For 13 Million People. “The House is expected to vote today on a bill that would lead 4 million people to gain health coverage, the Congressional Budget Office estimates, while making coverage more affordable for at least 13 million more, likely benefiting well over 17 million people in total. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act would strengthen both the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces and Medicaid. These improvements are especially important given that millions of people have likely lost job-based health insurance in recent weeks due to the deep economic downturn, many of whom will become uninsured if they lack access to these programs.” [Center of Budget and Policy Priorities, 6/29/20]

The Bill Lowered Premiums For Millions Of People In Low And Moderate Income Working Families. “Other parts of the bill would also expand access to marketplace coverage or make it more affordable, by: Lowering premiums for millions more people in low- and moderate-income working families, by enabling people who have an offer of employer coverage — but with premiums for family coverage that would exceed 9.5 percent of their income — to receive premium tax credits toward buying marketplace coverage.” [Center of Budget and Policy Priorities, 6/29/20]

The Bill Was Designed To Strengthen And Expand The ACA. “On June 22, 2020, Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives introduced the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act (HR 1425). The bill is designed to strengthen and expand upon the Affordable Care Act (ACA), shore up the Medicaid program, and lower prescription drug prices. The House Rules Committee will take up HR 1425 on June 24, with consideration by the full House after that. HR 1425 would improve marketplace access and affordability. Among other changes, the bill would expand the availability of ACA subsidies to additional income brackets, make premium tax credits (PTCs) more generous, eliminate the “family glitch,” fund outreach and navigators, fund state-based reinsurance or subsidy programs, fund state efforts to set up their own marketplaces, and rescind Trump-era guidance on state waivers under Section 1332.” [Health Affairs, 6/24/20]

May 2020: Upton Voted Against The HEROES Act. [HR 6800, Vote #109, 5/15/20; CQ, 5/15/20]

The HEROES Act Provided For A Two-Month Open Enrollment Period Under The Affordable Care Act. “Section XX. Special enrollment period through exchanges; federal exchange outreach and Activities. Provides for a two-month open enrollment period to allow individuals who are uninsured, for whatever reason, to enroll in coverage. Currently, Americans can only enroll in an Affordable Care Act (ACA) plan during open enrollment period, or because of a qualifying life event if they were previously insured.” [HEROES Act, Politico, accessed 9/1/20]

The HEROES Act Expanded Health Care Services To Underserved Populations During The COVID-19 Pandemic. “Health Resources and Services Administration – $7.6 billion to support expanded health care services for underserved populations, including: • $7.6 billion for Health Centers to expand the capacity to provide testing, triage, and care for COVID-19 and other health care services at approximately 1,000 existing health centers across the country; and • $10 million to Ryan White HIV/AIDS clinics to support extended operational hours, increased staffing hours, additional equipment, and additional home delivered meals and
transportation needs of clients, who disproportionately suffer from co-morbidities and underlying immunosuppression that puts them at greater risk for COVID-19 complications.” [HEROES Act, Politico, accessed 9/1/20]