Paul Junge refuses to stand-up to unending attempts to repeal health care coverage for the 310,000 in MI-08 who have a pre-existing condition, which will raise health care costs for people with diabetes, cancer, and even COVID-19. And Paul Junge supports multi-trillion dollar handouts that benefit corporations and wealthy people like him. Junge wants to make permanent the tax giveaway that delivered massive benefits to the wealthy and big corporations, like drug companies, even as cuts to Social Security and Medicare are threatened to pay for them despite bipartisan opposition.


NOTE: A targeted Nexis search on September 4th, 2020, did not show any results indicating that Junge had ever denounced his party’s lawsuit to repeal the Affordable Care Act or the American Health Care Act.

AUDIO: Junge Criticized The ACA But Refused To Answer If He Would Repeal Or Uphold The ACA.
“[24:00] Host: Now, you said you weren't in favor of Medicare for all? Are you in favor of disbanding or repealing the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare? Junge: “Well, look, I guess what I would say is, is that's a that's kind of a partisan Fight of the last decade. And I that's not a partisan fight that I'm going to engage in, I want to try to find the best solution possible for the people of the district. And if the Affordable Care Act or some part of it needs to be a part of how we provide health insurance and health care for the for the people, the eighth district, and Americans broadly, then then that's what I would do. But if if we look at the Affordable Care Act, and just see that it just has failed in its promises, and that really a different approach would be much better, to provide health insurance and health care for people. I would pursue that I'm not I'm not hung up on the Affordable Care Act. I'm more focused on seeing that. We get solutions for the people of the 8th District.” [Viewpoint 8th District GOP Candidate Paul Junge, WHMI, 8/23/20]

The Trump Administration Joined A Lawsuit Seeking To Strike Down The Entirety Of The Affordable Care Act. “In essence, the Texas plaintiffs argue that if the zeroed-out mandate is unconstitutional, then the proper remedy is to strike down the whole Affordable Care Act in its entirety. […] Obamacare’s opponents, which include the coalition of red states and the Trump administration, both urged the Court not to expedite the case because the Fifth Circuit’s decision did not (yet) disturb any operational part of the law. It appears that a majority of the justices were convinced by this argument.” [Vox, 1/21/20]

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]

Center For American Progress: 310,800 In Michigan’s 8th Congressional District Had Pre-Existing Conditions. [Center for American Progress, 10/2/19]
Without Protections For Pre-Existing Conditions, People Could Be Charged Thousands More For Coverage. Without pre-existing condition protections, health care would become prohibitively expensive for those who need it most. People with asthma, a relatively minor chronic condition, would face a markup of about $4,000 for coverage, while those with severe illnesses such as heart trouble or cancer would face premiums tens of thousands of dollars above standard rates.” [Center for American Progress, 4/21/17]

Cancer And Diabetes Were Considered Pre-Existing Conditions. “Health insurers can no longer charge more or deny coverage to you or your child because of a pre-existing health condition like asthma, diabetes, or cancer. They cannot limit benefits for that condition either. Once you have insurance, they can't refuse to cover treatment for your pre-existing condition.” [HHS, accessed 9/3/20]

Associated Press: COVID-19 Could Have Made Someone Uninsurable If Not For The ACA. “COVID-19 could have stamped a person “uninsurable” if not for the Affordable Care Act. The ban on insurers using preexisting conditions to deny coverage is a key part of the Obama-era law that the Trump administration still seeks to overturn. Without the law, people who recovered from COVID-19 and tried to purchase an individual health insurance policy could be turned down, charged higher premiums or have follow-up care excluded from coverage. Those considered vulnerable because of conditions such as respiratory problems or early-stage diabetes would have run into a wall of insurer suspicion.” [Associated Press, 5/3/20]

If Not For The ACA, Insurance Companies Could Have Charged Higher Premiums For Those With COVID-19. “Without the law, people who recovered from COVID-19 and tried to purchase an individual health insurance policy could be turned down, charged higher premiums or have follow-up care excluded from coverage. Those considered vulnerable because of conditions such as respiratory problems or early-stage diabetes would have run into a wall of insurer suspicion.” [Associated Press, 5/3/20]


Junge: “I Will Support Policies That Simplify Our Tax Code And Make Tax Cuts For Individuals Permanent.” “President Trump’s economy produced record low unemployment and higher incomes, particularly at the lower end of the wage scale, by encouraging hard work, entrepreneurship, investment, and job creation through low taxes and the elimination of burdensome regulations. Socialism, tax hikes, and crippling regulations would destroy any hope of a robust economic recovery, and we need a strong recovery to provide quality jobs, hope and opportunity for every American. I will support policies that simplify our tax code and make tax cuts for individuals permanent.” [PaulJunge.com, accessed 8/8/20]

MLive: “Junge Supports Policies Enacted By Trump To Build A Booming Economy.” “Paul Junge, Republican: Junge supports policies enacted by Trump to ‘build a booming economy,’ according to his campaign website. He also supports policies that simplify the tax code, and ensure trade agreements benefit American workers per the website. Junge supports incentives to encourage businesses to bring jobs back to the U.S. and reduces America’s reliance on Chinese goods.” [MLive, 7/17/20]

Washington Post: Final Tax Bill Included A “Significant Tax Break For The Very Wealthy” And “A Massive Tax Cut For Corporations.” “A new tax cut for the rich: The final plan lowers the top tax rate for top earners. Under current law, the highest rate is 39.6 percent for married couples earning over $470,700. The GOP bill would drop that to 37 percent and raise the threshold at which that top rate kicks in, to $500,000 for individuals and $600,000 for married couples. This amounts to a significant tax break for the very wealthy, a departure from repeated claims by Trump and his top officials that the bill would not benefit the rich. […] A massive tax cut for corporations: Starting on Jan. 1, 2018, big businesses’ tax rate would fall from 35 percent to just 21 percent, the largest one-time rate cut in U.S. history for the nation's largest companies.” [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

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**S&P 500 Companies Could See $1.64 Trillion in Tax Cuts.** “In other words, you can thank tax cuts for nearly half the growth in big-company earnings in the first quarter. For many companies – including a favorite target of Trump’s ire, Amazon.com Inc. – the boost was even more substantial, representing all, or nearly all, the quarter’s growth. It gets better: At the rate they’re going, S&P 500 companies could save $1.64 trillion in taxes over the next decade, Steve estimates – $300 billion more than lawmakers expected. Now we’re talking real money.” [Bloomberg News, 5/25/18]

**Corporate Tax Cut Cost Roughly $1 Trillion.** “It still amounts to roughly a $1 trillion tax cut for businesses over the next decade. Republicans argue this will make the economy surge in the coming years, but most independent economists and Wall Street banks predict only a modest and short-lived boost to growth.” [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

Junge Praised The Republican Tax Bill And Said He Would Support That Agenda If Elected. “[13:27] And of course, the tax reform that the Republican Congress passed in the previous Congress is contributing to that as well. Record low unemployment. Wages on the rise. That’s all President Trump’s leadership. And should you send me to Washington, I will support that agenda to keep jobs in this country.” [Orion Neighborhood Television, YouTube, 2/6/20]

American Conservative Union President Matt Schlapp: Paul Junge “Supports Further Tax Cuts.” “Paul Junge is passionately Pro-Life, supports the Second Amendment, and supports further tax cuts and deregulation to strengthen our economy.” [American Conservative Union, accessed 8/9/20]

Politico: Repatriation Provision In Tax Bill Was A “Major Victory For Pharma Manufacturers.” “The bill, H.R. 1 (115), lowers the corporate tax rate and would offer a one-time reduction on profits U.S.-based multinational companies earn and keep abroad. The repatriation provision is seen as a major victory for pharma manufacturers who store boatloads of cash in countries where tax rates are lower.” [Politico, 12/4/17]

Tax Bill Was Estimated To Save Top Five Pharmaceutical Companies $42.7 Billion. “The tax proposal supported by President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans would give five top pharmaceutical corporations a $42.7 billion tax break.” [Public Citizen and ITEP, 11/20/17]

CBO Estimated The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Would Increase The Deficit By $1.9 Trillion Over 10 Years. “The GOP’s signature tax law is projected to increase the national debt by $1.9 trillion between 2018 and 2028, according to a new report by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). According to the report, the tax law would cost the government $2.3 trillion in revenues, but economic growth would offset that figure by about $461 billion.” [The Hill, 4/9/18]

After Passing A Tax Bill That Added Trillions To The Deficit, Speaker Ryan Said Medicare And Medicaid Would Need To Be “Reformed” In Order To Decrease The Deficit. “With his dream of tax reform now realized, Ryan is hoping to make progress on two other issues he’s targeted during his two-decade career in Washington: entitlement and welfare reform. ‘We’re going to have to get back next year at entitlement reform, which is how you tackle the debt and the deficit,’ Ryan, a former Budget Committee chairman, said in a recent interview this month on the Ross Kaminsky radio talk show. Medicare and Medicaid are the ‘big drivers of debt,’ Ryan said, suggesting Republicans could once again use the budget reconciliation process to avoid a Democratic filibuster. Medicare is the ‘biggest entitlement that’s got to have reform,’ Ryan added.” [The Hill, 12/27/17]
After Tax Overhaul, GOP Sets Sights On Medicare, Social Security. [US News, 12/7/17]

A Pew Research Poll Showed Bipartisan Opposition To Spending Cuts For Social Security And Medicare. “There is widespread opposition to spending reductions for entitlements according to polling: A May 2017 poll from the Pew Research Center found just 15% of Republican and 5% of Democrats supported a reduction in Medicare spending, while just 10% of Republicans and 3% of Democrats want to see a reduction in Social Security funding.” [Business Insider, 10/17/18]

A Plurality Of GOP Voters Disagreed With The Party’s Plan To Deal With The Deficit With Cuts To Medicare And Social Security. “According to the Marist/NPR/PBS poll, 60% of Americans would rather reverse the GOP tax law to deal with the growing deficit. Just 21% of Americans would rather make cuts to entitlement programs of Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. […] Even a plurality of GOP voters don’t even agree with the party's plan to deal with the deficit. According to the poll, 43% of Republicans said they would prefer to reverse the TCJA to address the growing debt, while 32% said cutting entitlements was their preferred method.” [Business Insider, 10/29/18]