

## Bruce Poliquin (ME-02) Health Care Backup

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**In Congress, Poliquin Voted To Repeal The Affordable Care Act, Which Would Have Gutted Protections For Those With Pre-Existing Conditions, Stripped 23 Million Americans Of Their Health Care, Including 117,000 In Maine, And Raised Health Insurance Premiums**

### **Poliquin Voted To Repeal The Affordable Care Act**

**Poliquin Voted For The American Health Care Act – The Republican Health Care Repeal Bill.** In May 2017, 217 Republicans voted to repeal and replace major parts of the Affordable Care Act. According to the New York Times, the bill “would eliminate tax penalties for people who go without health insurance. It would roll back state-by-state expansions of Medicaid, which covered millions of low-income Americans. And in place of government-subsidized insurance policies offered exclusively on the Affordable Care Act’s marketplaces, the bill would offer tax credits of \$2,000 to \$4,000 a year, depending on age. [...] The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said the first version of the bill would trim the federal budget deficit considerably but would also leave 24 million more Americans without health insurance after a decade. Average insurance premiums would be 15 percent to 20 percent higher in 2018 and 2019, but after that, they would be lower than projected under current law.” The bill passed by a vote of 217-213. [HR 1628, [Vote #256](#), 5/4/17; New York Times, [5/4/17](#)]

### **Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Have Gutted Protections For People With Pre-Existing Conditions...**

**Politifact Found That AHCA “Would Weaken Protections” For Those With Pre-Existing Conditions, “Would Allow States To Give Insurers The Power To Charge People Significantly More.”** “An ad by the American Action Network says that under the American Health Care Act ‘people with pre-existing conditions are protected.’ The only kernel of truth here is that the amendment has language that states insurers can’t limit access to coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions. However, the ad omits that the House GOP health plan would weaken protections for these patients. The legislation would allow states to give insurers the power to charge people significantly more if they had a pre-existing condition. While Republicans point to the fact that those patients could get help through high-risk pools, experts question their effectiveness. Current law does not allow states to charge people with pre-existing conditions significantly more. We rate this claim Mostly False.” [Politifact, [5/24/17](#)]

### **...Stripped 23 Million Americans Of Their Health Care, Including 117,000 In Maine...**

**CBO Estimated 14 Million More People Would Be Uninsured In 2018; 23 Million More Uninsured By 2026.** “CBO and JCT estimate that, in 2018, 14 million more people would be uninsured under H.R. 1628 than under current law. The increase in the number of uninsured people relative to the number under current law would reach 19 million in 2020 and 23 million in 2026 (see Table 4, at the end of this document).” [CBO, [5/24/17](#)]

**CAP, 2017: CBO Data Showed 116,800 Mainers Would Lose Health Care Coverage By 2026 If Lawmakers Repealed The Affordable Care Act.** [Center for American Progress, [5/25/17](#)]

### **...And Raised Health Insurance Premiums**

**New York Times, 2017: “Average Insurance Premiums Would Be 15 To 20 Percent Higher In 2018 And 2019” If The Affordable Care Act Was Repealed.** “Average insurance premiums would be 15 percent to 20

percent higher in 2018 and 2019, but after that, they would be lower than projected under current law.” [New York Times, [5/4/17](#)]