



COMMITTEE TO PROTECT HEALTH CARE

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Chair of the Board

June 8, 2023

Ean Bett, MD
Director of the Board

Michigan House Insurance and Financial Services Committee Hearing
Chair Representative Brenda Carter

Farhan Bhatti, MD
Director of the Board

Richard Bruno, MD, MPH
Director of the Board

Kali Cyrus, MD, MPH
Director of the Board

Gaby Goldstein, JD, PhD
Director of the Board

Martha Grant
Director of the Board

Matt Longjohn, MD, MPH
Director of the Board

Milan Satcher, MD
Director of the Board

Mark Schauer
Director of the Board

Dear Chair Carter and Members of the Committee,

The Committee to Protect Health Care writes to support House Bills 4619-4623 and Senate Bill 326 to codify protections of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in Michigan. As a mobilization of doctors and medical professionals committed to expanding access to affordable health care, and on behalf of medical professionals across Michigan, we believe passing this legislation will help protect the health care coverage that hundreds of thousands of Michiganders have come to rely on and benefit from, as well as promote transparency regarding rates and provider availability.

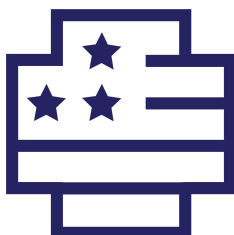
The ACA has helped millions of Michigan residents gain access to affordable, higher quality health care. Before the ACA, [1.8 million Michiganders](#) with pre-existing health conditions could have been denied coverage or charged higher rates when attempting to buy health insurance on the individual market. More than [3.5 million Michiganders](#) had lifetime limits on their health insurance benefits. Young Michiganders under 26 were often left without health care coverage, and residents could be denied coverage just for their gender or sexual orientation. And right now, [2.1 million Michiganders](#) are at risk of losing full coverage of preventive services as the *Braidwood Management Inc. v. Becerra* case continues through the courts.

Physicians and medical professionals see each and every day how important access to affordable, continuous health care is for patients. Affordable, accessible preventive care is key for them to remain healthy and keep serious health conditions at bay. Without it, people forgo needed screenings and treatments, allowing health conditions to worsen and become more painful and difficult to treat. People are then forced to be treated in hospitals and emergency rooms, adding enormous costs to our health care system.

Given the numerous attacks that have been waged against the ACA by members of Congress, and the hostility toward health care access demonstrated by our current U.S. Supreme Court, it's critical to ensure that the protections of the law in Michigan remain. [Other states are doing just this](#), and the Legislature can join them to provide a life-saving backstop for Michigan's residents with pre-existing conditions, women, seniors, low-income residents, and families; shielding them from federal threats.

We urge you to pass House Bills 4619-4623 and Senate Bills 356 without delay so that our patients and residents across Michigan can continue to access the care they need to live healthy, productive lives. We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Rob Davidson
Executive Director

Dr. Farhan Bhatti
MI State Lead, Director of
the Board

Miles Baker
Chief of Staff