



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

March 22, 2017

Hon. John Katko  
United States House of Representatives  
440 South Warren Street, 7th Floor Suite 711  
Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Rep. Katko:

Tomorrow, Congress will vote on the American Health Care Act (AHCA), an effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). While the ACA is not perfect, it has made great strides to address America's challenge of delivering affordable access to healthcare and provided insurance to millions of Americans. This proposed bill would strip healthcare from 24 million Americans, according the Congressional Budget Office, including 80,600 here in Central New York.

I was pleased to hear of your pledge to oppose the AHCA in the vote this week. That is the right decision for Central New York families who are dependent on the ACA for affordable healthcare. I remain concerned this vote will only be the first step in attempting to strip care from millions. You even stated on March 17 that "the administration and leaders in Congress deserve credit for starting this process."<sup>1</sup>

I do not believe, nor do I think families worried about accessing healthcare, think anyone deserves credit for starting a process to take away a person's ability to get health care. More than forty-nine percent of Syracuse's children live in poverty and we have the highest concentrations of black and Hispanic poverty in the United States. Repealing the ACA will have devastating impacts on our constituents. We need a leader in the House standing up for the affordable healthcare which Central New York families rely upon. I urge you to vote against the AHCA and any subsequent proposal which would diminish the quality or affordability of healthcare for the people of Syracuse.

Sincerely,

Stephanie A Miner  
Mayor of Syracuse

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<sup>1</sup> Weiner, Mark, "Katko says he'll vote against Obamacare repeal and replacement bill," [www.syracuse.com](http://www.syracuse.com). (March 17, 2017).