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Definition of Employer Under Section 3(5) of ERISA-Association Health Plans

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General Comment

Republicans on health care remind me of a dog chasing a car. After years of trying to run that car down and chewing on the tires to try to force it off the road, now they've caught it and we now will see if that dog can drive.

I am a cancer survivor.

I have been caught in an insurance company bankruptcy that left me stuck with medical bills that took more than 10 years to pay.

I have been excluded from subsequent health insurance at times because of my pre-existing conditions. That only served to rack up more bills and set me back time after time.

I've experienced large gaps in health insurance coverage because of a lack of portability between jobs.

While the GOP throws out platitudes and theories, I am a face of those likely to be impacted by their deconstruction without a viable replacement and desire for the

"good old days" before the current imperfect plan.

The GOP serves large medical corporations and insurance companies that share their profits with them through unlimited contributions in a corrupt political system.

The rubber is meeting the road. 20 million people have some form of insurance now who didn't have it 8 years ago, no thanks to the GOP who fought it tooth and nail.

Trump calls it "lousy health insurance."

I'll tell you what's worse.

"No health insurance."

When you're ill and being knocked on your ass every time you get sick or change a job there is no "American Dream."

Those who voted for this, don't imagine that you're exempt from it. I don't wish ill on anyone but it may be hard to find sympathy for those who vote against others being covered hoping they'll pocket a few dollars and not get sick themselves.

Words matter little at this point.

If the GOP repeals without a viable replacement, people will die and suffer.

I'm a face in that crowd and I'll continue to speak up for others like me and those who may die moving forward who may find they lost their bet that they won't get sick.