



SISTERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER
Rise Up AND Act for Justice

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Cassidy-Graham Bill is NOT What the Doctor Ordered

“Nine million, 11 million, 32 million. At what point does Congress stop and recognize that we are talking about people’s health and people’s lives? The latest attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act is incredibly more worrisome than the last,” said Lawrence E. Couch, Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

The legislation offered by Senators Bill Cassidy and Lindsey Graham would completely eliminate the ACA’s marketplace subsidies, which currently help almost 9 million people afford coverage. Unlike under earlier Republican bills, which substituted highly inadequate tax credits, moderate-income working people buying individual market coverage would no longer be guaranteed any assistance.

“The bill also would purge 11 million low-income adults from Medicaid who were added thanks to the ACA’s expansion of Medicaid in their states,” said Couch.

In addition, Cassidy-Graham would dramatically redistribute funding across states, meaning that many states - especially Medicaid expansion states and states with high marketplace costs - would see far deeper cuts.

“The legislation would end completely after 2026 - as if the need to help low- and moderate-income people afford coverage would just disappear overnight. The last repeal-and-replace bill was estimated to leave 32 million people without health insurance. This legislation looks to impact many more.

“Think of the older adults, people with disabilities, families with children who will be adversely affected, unable to receive regular, affordable medical care. This legislation is not what the doctor ordered,” Couch said.

[The National Advocacy Center](#) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, victims of human trafficking, victims of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in over 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.

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