

[Polling Confirms Broad, Bipartisan Support For Health Care Priorities In The Next Coronavirus Response Package](#)

Protect Our Care is [calling on Congress](#) to include critical health needs in the next coronavirus response package. Adequately funding testing, supporting Medicaid expansion and a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for the uninsured, addressing racial disparities, making coverage more affordable, banning junk plans, opposing the Trump-ACA repeal lawsuit and adequately safeguarding health care workers are among the health care priorities which must be addressed in the next package. A [new poll](#) from Public Policy Polling conducted on behalf of Protect Our Care confirms that American voters--including majorities of independents and Republicans--overwhelmingly support these proposals.

Provide Adequate Testing to Mitigate the Crisis and Give Us the Tools to Safely Reopen the Economy, Including Protections for Health Care and Essential Workers

Congress should fund sufficient testing capacity, production and deployment to slow the spread of the virus by identifying those who are sick and contagious, contact tracing to mitigate spread as the economy reopens, and sufficient testing for antibodies to guide public health decisions on reopening the economy. It should require adequate reporting requirements to track the status of the federal effort in real time. It should also fund adequate PPE for front line health care workers.

95 Percent Of Voters Support Congress Acting To Ensure Health Care Workers Have The Protective Gear They Need To Stay Safe. A large majority (95%) support Congress acting to ensure health care workers like doctors and nurses have the masks and gowns they need to stay safe, and that the administration has a plan to distribute them. Another 88% support Congress acting to fund sufficient testing capacity, production, and deployment for coronavirus tests.

Open A Special Enrollment Period (SEP) For the Uninsured and Fully Fund Outreach Efforts

Congress should open a Special Enrollment Period on the ACA exchanges for the uninsured nationally so people who need health coverage can sign up. Additionally, Congress should restore full funding for enrollment activities, which has been curtailed by the Trump administration, including for navigators, outreach and advertising so that Americans are aware of their options and get the help and information they need to enroll in Medicaid or the ACA marketplaces.

More Than 7 In 10 Voters Support Opening A Special Enrollment Period To Allow Uninsured Americans To Sign Up For Coverage. 76%, including 72% of independents and

67% of Republicans, support a special enrollment period to allow uninsured Americans to sign up for affordable coverage through the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Make Health Insurance More Affordable

Congress should increase financial assistance for those who qualify under the Affordable Care Act and expand the number of people who qualify for assistance.

Wide Majorities Of All Parties, Including 70 Percent Of Republicans, Support Health Care Affordability Measures. 80% of voters, including 84% of independents and 70% of Republicans, support reforming the health care system to increase financial assistance for those who need it the most and make sure no American spends more than 10% of their income on health insurance.

Medicaid Expansion

Congress should incentivize Medicaid expansion so that more people are covered. It should ensure that the states that have yet to expand Medicaid get a second chance to receive the same levels of federal funding as states that expanded earlier. Congress should also provide additional assistance to states by extending and expanding the increase in federal Medicaid match that was included in the Families First law and providing that increase for both traditional and expansion Medicaid populations.

Nearly 8 In 10 Voters Support Expanding Medicaid So More Americans Can Qualify And Get Treated For Coronavirus And Other Health Care Needs. 79% support expanding Medicaid so more low- and moderate- income Americans can qualify and get treated for coronavirus and other health care needs. This is also popular among independents (83%) and Republicans (65%).

Address Racial Disparities

Congress should mandate the collection and dissemination of data on coronavirus cases by racial and ethnic outcomes, and ensure that testing and other health measures reach those who need it.

Majorities Of All Parties, Including 80 Percent Of Independents, Support Congress Requiring That Testing And Care Reach Communities Of Color. 79% support Congress requiring that testing and care reach communities of color, who are disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus, and that their health disparities are addressed. This includes 80% of independents and 63% of Republicans voters.

End Junk Plans

Congress should block efforts by the administration to push junk insurance plans that can discriminate against people with pre-existing conditions. Every American who has coronavirus, even if they don't have symptoms, could now have a pre-existing condition.

More Than Half Of American Voters Support Ending Short-Term Junk Plans. 55% of voters support ending short-term insurance plans that might not cover care for coronavirus. Only 27% oppose this measure.

Stop the Trump-Texas Lawsuit

Congress should block funding for the Department of Justice to litigate the Trump-Texas lawsuit seeking to invalidate the Affordable Care Act.

Less Than 30 Percent Of Voters Support Trump's Lawsuit To Overturn The ACA. While more than half of voters oppose Trump's lawsuit to strike down the ACA, only 29%--and less than half of Republicans (44%)--support the lawsuit.

Allow Young Adults to Stay on Their Parent's Health Care Plans Longer

Young adults should be able to stay on their parent's plan past the age of 26 during the pandemic, given the difficult job market.

More Than Three Quarters Of Voters Support Letting Young Adults Stay On Their Parent's Plan During The Pandemic. 76% support letting young adults remain on their parents' health insurance plan past the age of 26 during the pandemic, given the difficult job market. This includes 76% of independents and 64% of Republicans.