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Kanawha County Representatives Call for Congress to Lower Costs and Improve Health Care for West Virginians

Senator Richard Lindsay, Delegate Mike Pushkin, Delegate Kayla Young and Health Care Advocates Join Protect Our Care on the Nationwide “Lower Costs, Better Care” Bus Tour to Demonstrate the Urgent Need to [Lower the Cost of Prescription Drugs



CHARLESTON, WV - Protect Our Care's "Care Force One" arrived in Charleston this afternoon to demonstrate the need for lowering West Virginia's health costs, expanding coverage, and reducing racial disparities in care. Headlined by Senator Richard Lindsay, Delegate Mike Pushkin and Delegate Kayla Young], the event highlighted how Democrats are leading the charge to advance American health care and held Republicans accountable for continuing to reject measures to improve care and lower costs for West Virginians.

Read Protect Our Care's new report: [Lower Costs, Better Care for West Virginians](#) here.

Throughout the nationwide "[Lower Cost, Better Care](#)" bus tour, Protect Our Care is fighting to ensure critical health care measures supported by President Biden remain in upcoming budget

reconciliation legislation. These priorities include giving Medicare the power to negotiate for lower drug prices for all Americans, getting more Americans covered by closing the Medicaid gap, expanding Medicare benefits to include hearing, dental, and vision, and further reducing health care premiums for millions of Americans who purchase coverage on their own.

You Can Watch the Event [Here](#).

“The high cost of prescription drugs is a huge problem in our area - for seniors, for anyone with diabetes or some other life-threatening disease or for anyone who earns too much for medicaid and is hanging on by their fingernails paying all of their bills,” **said Mindy Salango, a Type 1 diabetic from Morgantown, WV who even with health insurance, struggles to pay for her insulin and life saving medications.** “It is disgraceful, and it is past time to use the power of what is probably the largest purchaser of drugs, Medicare, to negotiate cheaper medication costs for all of us. We cannot do that at the state level. We need our federal elected officials to be strong advocates for West Virginians struggling with these monopoly drug prices.”

“West Virginians are sick and tired of Republicans like Senator Shelley Moore Capito standing in the way of reforms that would lower costs and improve care, and West Virginia will hold her accountable,” **said Delegate Mike Pushkin.** “Democrats are fighting tirelessly to ensure every American has affordable, accessible, and reliable health care, but Capito and her Republican friends continue their attempts at sabotage and put Big Pharma and other special interests first.

“This tour is giving Americans from all walks of life the opportunity to speak out about the pressing need to lower health care costs and improve care,” **said Lynette Maselli, state coordinator for Protect Our Care, WV.** “West Virginians have the right to know whether their elected officials stand by President Biden’s agenda to improve health care for millions or if they side with Big Pharma and other special interests. When Congress returns this fall, we have a once in a generation opportunity to transform health care for the American people, including lowering prescription drug prices, closing the Medicaid coverage gap, and further reducing health costs for people purchasing coverage on their own. Care Force One is crisscrossing the country this summer making the case for getting this critical job done.”

The Protect Our Care “Lower Costs, Better Care” Bus Tour is making stops in:

Bangor, Maine on Monday, August 9, 2021

Portland, Maine on Monday, August 9, 2021

Burlington, Vermont on Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Concord, New Hampshire on Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Teaneck, New Jersey on Thursday, August 12, 2021

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania on Thursday, August 12, 2021

New York, New York on Friday, August 13, 2021

New Brunswick, New Jersey on Monday, August 16, 2021

Scranton, Pennsylvania on Monday, August 16, 2021
Burlington County, New Jersey on Tuesday, August 17, 2021
Wilmington, Delaware on Tuesday, August 17, 2021
Dover, Delaware on Tuesday, August 17, 2021
Morgantown, West Virginia on Wednesday, August 18, 2021
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, August 18, 2021
Youngstown, Ohio on Thursday, August 19, 2021
Columbus, Ohio on Thursday, August 19, 2021
Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Friday, August 20, 2021
Madison, Wisconsin on Friday, August 20, 2021
Parkersburg, West Virginia on Monday, August 23, 2021
Charleston, West Virginia on Monday, August 23, 2021
Raleigh, North Carolina on Tuesday, August 24, 2021
Charlotte, North Carolina on Tuesday, August 24, 2021
Columbia, South Carolina on Tuesday, August 24, 2021
Atlanta, Georgia on Wednesday, August 25, 2021
Savannah, Georgia on Wednesday, August 25, 2021
Orlando, Florida on Thursday, August 26, 2021
Tampa, Florida on Thursday, August 26, 2021
Denver, Colorado on Monday, August 30, 2021
Flagstaff, Arizona on Tuesday, August 31, 2021
Phoenix, Arizona on Tuesday, August 31, 2021
Tucson, Arizona on Wednesday, September 1, 2021
San Diego, California on Thursday, September 2, 2021
Anaheim, California on Thursday, September 2, 2021
Las Vegas, Nevada on Friday, September 3, 2021