



**CALIFORNIA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION**

*Providing Leadership in
Health Policy and Advocacy*

Revisiting the Affordable Care Act Talking Points

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California hospitals have long supported affordable health coverage for all Californians. CHA's priority is preserving coverage for the 3.7 million Californians and 21 million Americans who gained coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) through Medicaid expansion, and millions more who purchased insurance because of the premium subsidy.

CHA supports keeping existing coverage for Californians until a viable replacement with meaningful coverage is passed by Congress and signed into law.

Key delivery system reforms, adequate payment rates and quality improvement efforts must be maintained.

If policymakers choose to repeal the ACA without offering a replacement bill, it is essential that they either put the savings from repeal into a reserve fund to be used for future replacement efforts, or eliminate the payment reductions for hospital services that were part of the ACA.

California hospitals believe that meaningful and significant replacement for the ACA must include:

- Affordable, robust and continuous health coverage for all Californians
- A stable and financially viable Medicaid program
- Access to medically necessary health care services for all patients
- Predictable and adequate payments to hospitals and health systems that promote the continued transformation of quality of health care delivery

Without a simultaneous and meaningful replacement of the ACA:

- Coverage for nearly 5 million Californians will be upended.
- Insurance markets, particularly the individual market, will be destabilized.
- State and local governments will face a serious fiscal crisis as millions of people suddenly become uninsured and turn to government programs for their health care needs.
- Local hospitals' ability to provide access to quality care in the communities they serve will be undermined. Ongoing efforts to find innovative ways to manage and coordinate the delivery of high-quality, cost-efficient health care services will be derailed.

Once specific details on various plans to repeal, replace or reform the ACA are made public, CHA will use the above criteria to conduct a comprehensive analysis.