

*Repeal of Health Reform Law Would Have Devastating Impact on Maryland Families, Seniors, and Small Businesses*

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) issued the following statement after the House Committee on Energy and Commerce released a new [report](#) describing the negative impact that the Republican repeal of the health reform law would have on Maryland's Fifth District:

“Health reform is already helping provide access to quality, affordable health care for many Maryland families, seniors, and small businesses,” **stated Congressman Hoyer**. “Today, the House began debate on whether or not to strip Marylanders of those benefits and put insurance companies back in charge of the health care of our citizens. By repealing the health reform law, children with pre-existing conditions would be denied coverage, young people would no longer stay on their parents’ plans until age 26, pregnant women and cancer patients would continue to be denied insurance, and seniors would face higher prescription drug costs. Maryland families, seniors, and small businesses cannot afford to lose the freedom provided by health reform.”

According to the [report](#), Republican repeal would take back important new benefits, increase health care costs for millions of Americans, cause families to lose coverage, and increase the national debt by over \$1 trillion. In the Fifth District, the analysis found that repealing the health reform law would have the following consequences:

- Allow insurance companies to deny coverage to **132,000 to 343,000** individuals, including **10,000 to 44,000** children, with pre-existing condition---s.
- Rescind consumer protections for **565,000** individuals who have health insurance through their employer or the private insurance market.
- Eliminate health care tax credits for up to **12,100** small businesses and **107,000** families.
- Increase prescription drug costs for **3,900** seniors who hit the Part D drug “donut hole” and denying new preventive care benefits to **80,000** seniors.
- Increase the costs of early retiree coverage for up to **9,200** early retirees.

- Eliminate new health care coverage options for **2,300** uninsured young adults.
- Increase the number of people without health insurance by **14,000**.
- Increase the costs to hospitals of providing uncompensated care by **\$24 million** annually.

To read the report, [click here](#) .