



April 24, 2017

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Speaker, Majority Leader McConnell, Madame Leader, and Minority Leader Schumer:

Thank you for your efforts to make affordable healthcare accessible to all Americans. On behalf of the Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC), I am writing to ask you to fully fund the Cost Sharing Reduction (CSR) subsidies that assist low-income individuals and families with out of-pocket costs in health plans sold through the Health Insurance Marketplaces.

HLC is a coalition of chief executives from all disciplines within American healthcare. Our members – the nation’s leading hospitals, academic health centers, health plans, pharmaceutical companies, post-acute care providers, and information technology companies – are committed to advancing a consumer-centered healthcare system that values innovation, accessibility, and affordability.

CSR funding keeps healthcare affordable for low-income Americans. These payments reduce out-of-pocket costs for more than seven million people earning between \$11,880 and \$29,700 per year. In Wisconsin’s 1st Congressional District, 14,700 people depend on CSRs, and in California’s 12th District, around 14,400 people could lose this important assistance. In Kentucky, approximately 32,200 people are at risk of losing this funding, and in the state of New York the number is 40,800. Without congressional funding for the CSRs, many of these low-income individuals will no longer be able to maintain their health coverage and will have to go without necessary doctor visits, prescriptions, and other healthcare services. They will delay preventive care and instead seek treatment in emergency rooms and other high-cost settings.

Not only will a lack of CSR funding pose a threat to the health of low-income individuals and families, but it will also create uncertainty in the individual insurance market. As health plans decide whether or not to stay in this market in 2018, they need to have certainty about the continuation of the CSR funding. Funding the CSRs plays an important role in ensuring that all Americans have access to healthcare in the current individual insurance market.

Thank you again for your leadership in addressing the nation's healthcare challenges. The Healthcare Leadership Council and its member companies urge you to fund the CSR payments, and we look forward to continuing to work with you on this and other issues critical to our nation's health. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Debbie Withey at (202) 449-3435.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary R. Grealy". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Mary R. Grealy
President

cc: The Honorable Thomas Price, Secretary of Health and Human Services