



STATEMENT FROM U.S. SEN. PAT TOOMEY

on health care coverage for people with pre-existing conditions

The PA Breast Cancer Coalition reached out to **U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey** for his comments regarding critical health care issues affecting breast cancer survivors in Pennsylvania. This is what he had to say on health care coverage for people with pre-existing conditions like breast cancer:

“As part of any replacement, I want to make sure that there is a suitable transition period so no one covered by Obamacare has the rug pulled out from under them. I also want to ensure people with very expensive, chronic illnesses have access to affordable coverage. The manner in which this can be done includes, but is not limited to, the use of state-based risk pools and extending the incentives for individuals to maintain credible coverage, which already exists in employer-sponsored market, to the individual market.”

Sen. Toomey’s office released the following statement regarding the current status of health care in our country:

President Obama’s health care law is fundamentally wrong in its approach to improving our nation’s health care system. It forces people to buy overpriced health plans they do not want, hikes taxes, and puts important and personal health care decisions in the hands of politicians and bureaucrats instead of patients and their doctors. News of skyrocketing health insurance premium increases--32.5 percent on average in Pennsylvania--coupled with the fact that 40 percent of Pennsylvanians now live in areas with no health insurance competition, show just how Obamacare’s broken promises are hurting Pennsylvanians.

Given the massive spikes in premiums and deductibles so many Pennsylvania families are enduring, the loss of choices, and the collapse of individual markets, Congress has begun the process of repealing and replacing Obamacare. At the same time, the administration has undertaken a series of important regulatory actions to stabilize the health care market.

On May 4, 2017, the House of Representatives passed the American Health Care Act (H.R. 1628). This proposal is merely the first legislative step; I look forward to being part of this process as the Senate writes its own version to repeal and replace Obamacare so that Pennsylvanians can have access to quality health care at a price they can afford.

As part of any replacement, I want to make sure that there is a suitable transition period so no one covered by Obamacare has the rug pulled out from under them. I also want to ensure people with very expensive, chronic illnesses have access to affordable coverage. The manner in which this can be done includes, but is not limited to, the use of state-based risk pools and extending the incentives for individuals to maintain credible coverage, which already exists in employer-sponsored market, to the individual market.

Please know that I understand your concerns, and as Congress continues to debate health care reform, I will be sure to keep your thoughts in mind. Thank you again for your correspondence. Do not hesitate to contact me in the future if I can be of assistance.