



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

ACOG

THE AMERICAN CONGRESS
OF OBSTETRICIANS
AND GYNECOLOGISTS



American College of Physicians
Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

America's Front Line Physicians Urge Congress to Find a New Way Forward to Protect Patients' Access to Care

Washington, D.C., March 24, 2017 -- Following the U.S. House of Representatives' failure to pass the American Health Care Act (AHCA), the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Physicians, American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and American Osteopathic Association, representing 500,000 physicians and medical students, urge Congress to find a new way forward. We stood in opposition to the AHCA for the harm it would cause our patients by leading to less access to coverage, doing away with critical patient protections, dismantling the Medicaid program and resulting in higher costs of care.

As primary care physicians on the frontlines of patient care, we are grateful that many Representatives heard our concerns and did not vote to pass the AHCA, and we turn now to Congress to find a new way forward. We urge our elected leaders to consider our [joint principles for health care reform](#) in any new proposal they pursue, and that any efforts to change or amend current law should “first, do no harm” to our patients. We look forward to working with Congress on developing solutions to improving our nation's health care system.

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About the American Academy of Family Physicians

Founded in 1947, the AAFP represents 124,900 physicians and medical students nationwide. It is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care.

Family physicians conduct approximately one in five office visits -- that's 192 million visits annually or 48 percent more than the next most visited medical specialty. Today, family physicians provide more care for America's underserved and rural populations than any other medical specialty. Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing, personal patient-physician relationship focused on integrated care.

To learn more about the specialty of family medicine, the AAFP's [positions \(5 page PDF\)](#) on issues and clinical care, and for downloadable multi-media highlighting family medicine, visit www.aafp.org/media. For information about health care, health conditions and wellness, please visit the AAFP's award-winning consumer website, www.FamilyDoctor.org(www.familydoctor.org).

About the American Academy of Pediatrics

The American Academy of Pediatrics is an organization of 66,000 primary care pediatricians,

pediatric medical subspecialists and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and young adults. For more information, visit www.aap.org and follow us on Twitter @AmerAcadPeds.

About the American College of Physicians

The [American College of Physicians](http://www.acponline.org) is the largest medical specialty organization in the United States with members in more than 145 countries worldwide. ACP membership includes 152,000 internal medicine physicians (internists), related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge and clinical expertise to the diagnosis, treatment, and compassionate care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness. Follow ACP on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/acponline) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/acponline).

About the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (The College), a 501(c)(3) organization, is the nation's leading group of physicians providing health care for women. As a private, voluntary, nonprofit membership organization of more than 58,000 members, The College strongly advocates for quality health care for women, maintains the highest standards of clinical practice and continuing education of its members, promotes patient education, and increases awareness among its members and the public of the changing issues facing women's health care. The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), a 501(c)(6) organization, is its companion.

About the American Osteopathic Association

The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) represents more than 129,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students; promotes public health; encourages scientific research; serves as the primary certifying body for DOs; and is the accrediting agency for osteopathic medical schools. Visit DoctorsThatDO.org to learn more about osteopathic medicine.

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