

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton**  
**Subcommittee on Health**  
**Hearing on “The President’s Health Care Law Does Not Equal Health Care Access”**  
**June 12, 2014**

*(As Prepared for Delivery)*

“If you like your doctor, you will be able to keep your doctor, period. If you like your health care plan, you’ll be able to keep your health care plan, period. No one will take it away, no matter what.” The second promise of that oft repeated phrase earned the president the “Lie of the Year” last year from a leading fact checker. Now, more and more Americans are learning that the first promise about keeping one’s trusted doctor has also failed to hold true.

Sadly, even those who wrote this law knew that its mandates and structure would not allow the president to keep these promises, no matter how often Mr. Obama repeated them. In fact, one of the law’s chief architects later elaborated on this failed promise saying, “if you want to pay more for an insurance company that covers your doctor, you can do that.” But this is not what the American people were promised.

My colleagues and I have heard from countless constituents who have lost their health care plans or lost their trusted doctors. Folks are finding out the hard way that the health care coverage offered under the president’s health care law falls far short of what they were promised.

Analyses have shown that, in order to comply with the law’s many taxes and mandates, provider networks have necessarily been limited. But, it is the sickest Americans who are being hurt the most. Patients with cancer, HIV/AIDS, multiple sclerosis, and autoimmune diseases who are purchasing silver plans through the health care exchanges are facing coinsurance rates often as high as 40 percent of the cost of their drug. On average, patients are paying 130 percent more in out-of-pocket costs for medicines in silver plans on the health care exchanges when compared to employer-sponsored coverage.

The president’s health care law has disrupted health care coverage and destroyed health care choices for millions of Americans. The president and his allies have tried to put an end to any conversation about this health care law, but as the American people continue to be faced with its harsh realities, we will continue to do our part and hold the administration accountable for its broken promises and protect the American people from this law’s costly consequences.

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