

Transparency Re-capping the Key Points:

- We are increasingly concerned about the rapid Senate timeline for bringing a bill to the floor for a vote
- Based on current reports, we should prepare for a floor vote the last week of June (the week of the 26th) – we will likely not see the final language of the full bill or a CBO score before then
- It's important to keep up pressure on Senators and to ask them for further transparency on this bill - to push back on the secretive, backroom process they've undertaken to date – we still have the ability to impact the ongoing negotiations within the Senate over the next two weeks
- Based on [what we know about the emerging Senate bill](#), it is largely the same as the House bill – despite many Senator's claims – saying they “oppose the House bill” allows them a pass on answering to the specifics of what the emerging Senate bill includes
- Among retaining other harmful proposals in the House-passed version of the bill, the Senate bill converts Medicaid funding to Per Capita Caps and phases out federal Medicaid expansion funding

Recapping Transparency Ask

Senators should commit that before they bring a bill to the floor, they will provide enough time for their constituents to:

- See the final language of their bill so they can see where changes have been made to the House bill
- Understand – with the benefit of a CBO analysis – how the bill will affect coverage and costs
- Provide input to their senators on how the bill will affect them

Millions of Americans are worried about losing their health care – they deserve the opportunity to understand how a bill will affect them before the Senate votes.

Transparency Talking Points

- Out of sight, Republican senators are making a backroom deal on a bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act – without providing the public with the opportunity to provide input, see legislative text or understand what the bill would do.
- Remarkably, Senate Republican leadership will [reportedly](#) keep the bill text secret until the last possible moment – potentially unveiling both the text and a CBO score mid-way through the debate on repeal, and just hours before members are expected to vote on final passage. This is the same tactic Senate Republicans used for their last vote on ACA repeal legislation in 2015.
- Why are Republicans keeping the bill a secret? Probably because it's largely the same as the overwhelmingly unpopular House bill that would cause 23 million people to lose coverage, raise costs for millions more, cut Medicaid by nearly a quarter, and take away protections for people with pre-existing conditions.

- The Senate Majority Whip (Senator Cornyn) has said the Senate bill will do 80 percent of what the House bill does. And everything we know about the bill so far is consistent with that.
- Hiding the bill and the score makes it easier to claim that the Senate has fixed the House bill's problems, even when they actually haven't – just like House leaders claimed that the Upton amendment fixed their bill and protected people with pre-existing conditions, when it didn't.
- And, it prevents constituents – or doctors, nurses, hospitals, and other experts – from having a chance to weigh in on the bill. That's also why Leader McConnell aims to bring the health bill to the Senate floor before Senators go home for fourth of July recess, foreclosing the opportunity for constituents to provide input and express their fears and concerns about the proposal.
- This is just the latest step in Republicans' effort to force through ACA repeal through secrecy and speed. For example, there hasn't been a single Congressional hearing on this legislation, and Senate leaders don't intend to hold any, in sharp contrast to the development of the Affordable Care Act in 2009, when over 100 hearings were held.
- Congressional hearings provide highly-visible moments for experts and opponents to call attention to the impact of a bill.
- This is a bill that affects 1/6 of the economy and touches the lives of tens of millions of people. Senators should commit that before they bring a bill to the floor onto the floor, they will provide enough time for their constituents to: