

Resolution No. 173-17

Council Member J. Johnson

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Opposing the proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act because of the catastrophic impact such repeal would have on millions of Americans who currently rely on it for health insurance coverage.

WHEREAS, members of the United States Congress have resolved to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2017; and

WHEREAS, repeal of the ACA would be catastrophic for millions of Americans who currently rely on the ACA for health insurance coverage for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), if the ACA were repealed, the number of people in the United States who are uninsured would increase by 18 million in the first new plan year after the ACA is repealed; and

WHEREAS, also according to the CBO, after elimination of the ACA's expansion of Medicaid eligibility and of subsidies for insurance purchased through the ACA marketplaces, the number of uninsured would increase to 27 million, and then to 32 million uninsured by 2026; and

WHEREAS, the CBO states that premiums for individual policies purchased through the marketplaces or directly from insurers would increase by 20-25% in the first new plan year after the ACA is repealed; and

WHEREAS, in Ohio, by December, 2016, an estimated 212,000 people enrolled in marketplace coverage and nearly 690,000 Ohioans enrolled in coverage as a result of the Medicaid expansion; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, under the ACA and with the expansion of Medicaid, between 2013 and 2015, the number of uninsured Ohio adults fell from 11% to 6.5%; and

WHEREAS, repeal of the ACA would mean the slashing of federal funds flowing to Ohio's state budget, to its health care providers and to Ohio families who benefit from expanded coverage; further, repeal would adversely impact the job security of thousands of health care workers in Cleveland and northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health, or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council opposes the proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act because of the catastrophic impact such repeal would have on millions of Americans who currently rely on it for health insurance coverage.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, all members of the U.S. Congress and all members of the Ohio legislature.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

