

# Tim Huelskamp on Health Care

[http://www.ontheissues.org/House/Tim\\_Huelskamp\\_Health\\_Care.htm](http://www.ontheissues.org/House/Tim_Huelskamp_Health_Care.htm)

**Voted YES on the Ryan Budget: Medicare choice, tax & spending cuts.**

## ***Proponent's Arguments for voting Yes:***

[Sen. DeMint, R-SC]: The Democrats have Medicare on a course of bankruptcy. Republicans are trying to save Medicare & make sure there are options for seniors in the future. Medicare will not be there 5 or 10 years from now. Doctors will not see Medicare patients at the rate [Congress will] pay.

[Sen. Ayotte, R-NH]: We have 3 choices when it comes to addressing rising health care costs in Medicare. We can do nothing & watch the program go bankrupt in 2024. We can go forward with the President's proposal to ration care through an unelected board of 15 bureaucrats. Or we can show real leadership & strengthen the program to make it solvent for current beneficiaries, and allow future beneficiaries to make choices.

## ***Opponent's Arguments for voting No:***

[Sen. Conrad, D-ND]: In the House Republican budget plan, the first thing they do is cut \$4 trillion in revenue over the next 10 years. For the wealthiest among us, they give them an additional \$1 trillion in tax reductions. To offset these massive new tax cuts, they have decided to shred the social safety net. They have decided to shred Medicare. They have decided to shred program after program so they can give more tax cuts to those who are the wealthiest among us.

[Sen. Merkley, D-OR]: The Republicans chose to end Medicare as we know it. The Republican plan reopens the doughnut hole. That is the hole into which seniors fall when, after they have some assistance with the first drugs they need, they get no assistance until they reach a catastrophic level. It is in that hole that seniors have had their finances devastated. We fixed it. Republicans want to unfix it and throw seniors back into the abyss. Then, instead of guaranteeing Medicare coverage for a fixed set of benefits for every senior--as Medicare does now--the Republican plan gives seniors a coupon and says: Good luck. Go buy your insurance. If the insurance goes up, too bad.

Reference: Ryan Budget Plan; Bill [HCR34&SCR21](#) ; vote number [11-HV277](#) on Apr 15, 2011

**Voted YES on repealing the "Prevention and Public Health" slush fund.**

***Congressional Summary:***Amends the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) to repeal provisions establishing and appropriating funds to the Prevention and Public Health Fund (a Fund to provide for expanded and sustained national investment in prevention and public health programs to improve health and help restrain the rate of growth in private and public sector health care costs). Rescinds any unobligated balanced appropriated to such Fund.

## ***Proponent's Argument for voting Yes:***

[Rep. Pitts, R-PA]: Section 4002 of PPACA establishes a Prevention and Public Health Fund, which my bill, H.R. 1217, would repeal. The PPACA section authorizes the appropriation of and appropriates to the fund from the Treasury the following amounts:

- \$500 million for FY 2010
- \$750 million for FY11

- \$1 billion for FY12
- \$1.25 billion for FY13
- \$1.5 billion for FY14
- and for FY15 and every fiscal year thereafter, \$2 billion.

We have created a slush fund from which the Secretary of HHS can spend without any congressional oversight or approval. I would suggest to my colleagues that, if you wanted more funding to go towards smoking cessation or to any other program, the health care law should have contained an explicit authorization. By eliminating this fund, we are not cutting any specific program. This is about reclaiming our oversight role of how Federal tax dollars should be used.

***Opponent's Argument for voting No:***

[Rep. Waxman, D-CA]: This bill represents the Republicans' newest line of attack to disrupt, dismantle, and to ultimately destroy the Affordable Care Act. For many years, Republicans have joined with Democrats in supporting programs to prevent disease, to promote health and, in turn, to cut health care costs. But today, the House will vote to end funding for the first and only Federal program with dedicated, ongoing resources designed to make us a healthier Nation.

Reference: To repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund; Bill [H.1217](#) ; vote number [11-HV264](#) on Apr 13, 2011

**Defund, repeal, & replace federal care with free market.**

Huelskamp signed the Contract From America

The Contract from America, clause 7. Defund, Repeal, & Replace Government-run Health Care:

Defund, repeal and replace the recently passed government-run health care with a system that actually makes health care and insurance more affordable by enabling

Source: The Contract From America [10-CFA07](#) on Jul 8, 2010

**Repeal any federal health care takeover.**

Huelskamp signed Club for Growth's "Repeal-It!" Pledge

The Club for Growth's "Repeal-It!" Pledge for candidates states, "I hereby pledge to the people of my district/state upon my election to the U.S. House of Representatives/U.S. Senate, to sponsor and support legislation to repeal any federal health care takeover passed in 2010, and replace it with real reforms that lower health care costs without growing government."

Source: Club for Growth's "Repeal-It!" Pledge [10-CfG-can](#) on Jul 4, 2010

**Repeal the Job-Killing Health Care Law.**

Huelskamp co-sponsored Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act

Repeals the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, effective as of its enactment. Restores provisions of law amended by such Act.

Repeals the health care provisions of the Health Care and Education and Reconciliation Act of 2010, effective as of the Act's enactment. Restores provisions of law amended by the Act's health care provisions.

Source: H.R.2 [11-HR002](#) on Jan 5, 2011

**Remove all funding from the 2010 national healthcare law.**

Huelskamp co-sponsored Defund ObamaCare

***Congressional Summary:*** Declares that no funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (HCERA), and any amendments made by either such Act.

***OnTheIssues Explanation:*** This bill proposes to defund ObamaCare, instead of repealing it. This bill uses Congress' "power of the purse" to undo the previously-passed law, while still leaving that law on the books. In contrast, [H.R. 2](#) repeals ObamaCare rather than defunding it; and [H.R. 4](#) attempts to undo ObamaCare one piece at a time.