



Health Care Town Hall

Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Tuesday, May 30, 2017

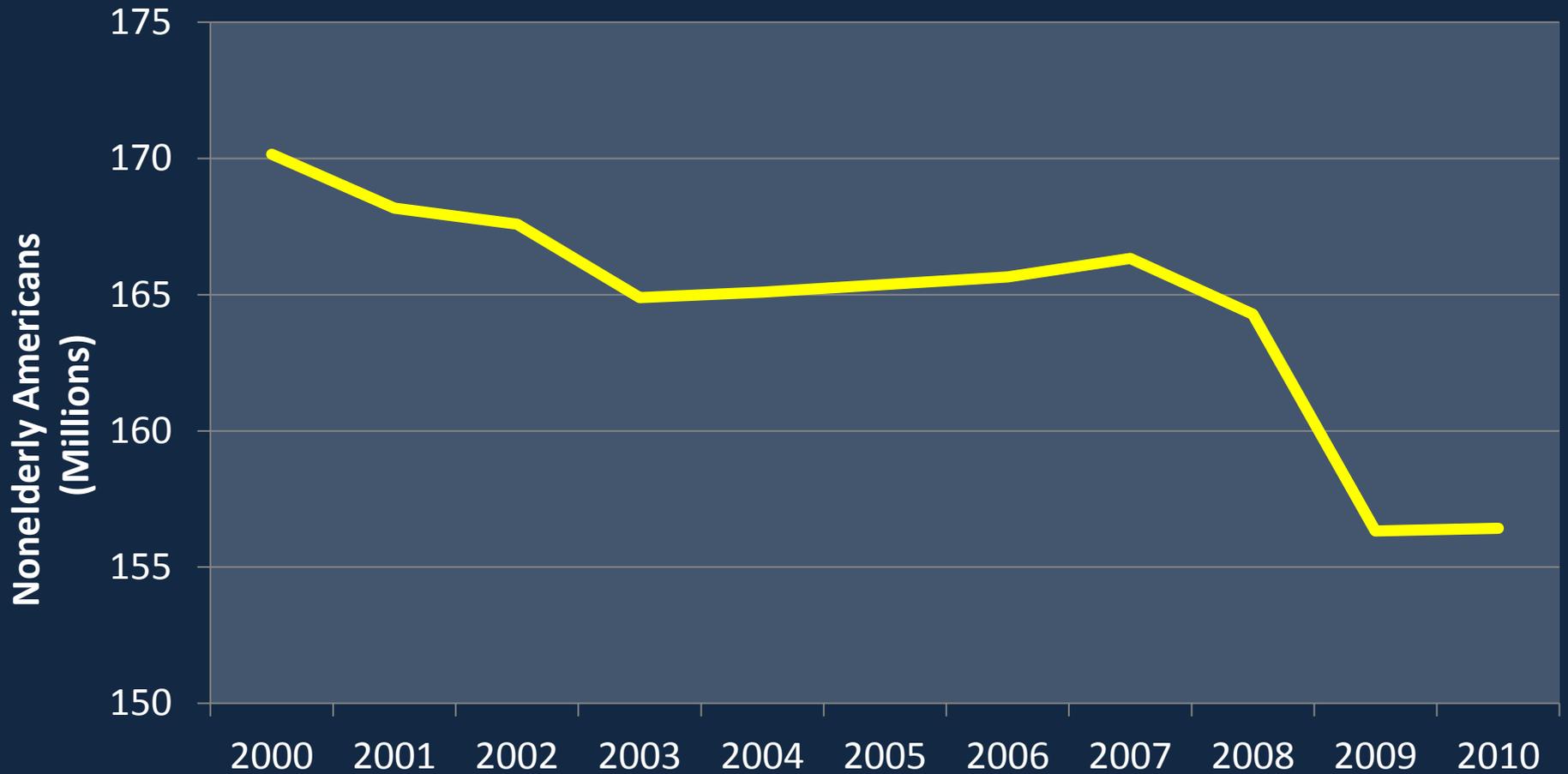
Hampton, Virginia

Before the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

- You could be denied coverage or charged exorbitant premiums if you had a preexisting condition.
- Employer-based coverage was declining and those who lost job-based coverage had few or no options.
- The cost of caring for the uninsured was shifted onto Americans families through higher premiums – an additional \$1,000 annually.

Declining Employer-Sponsored Coverage

2000-2010



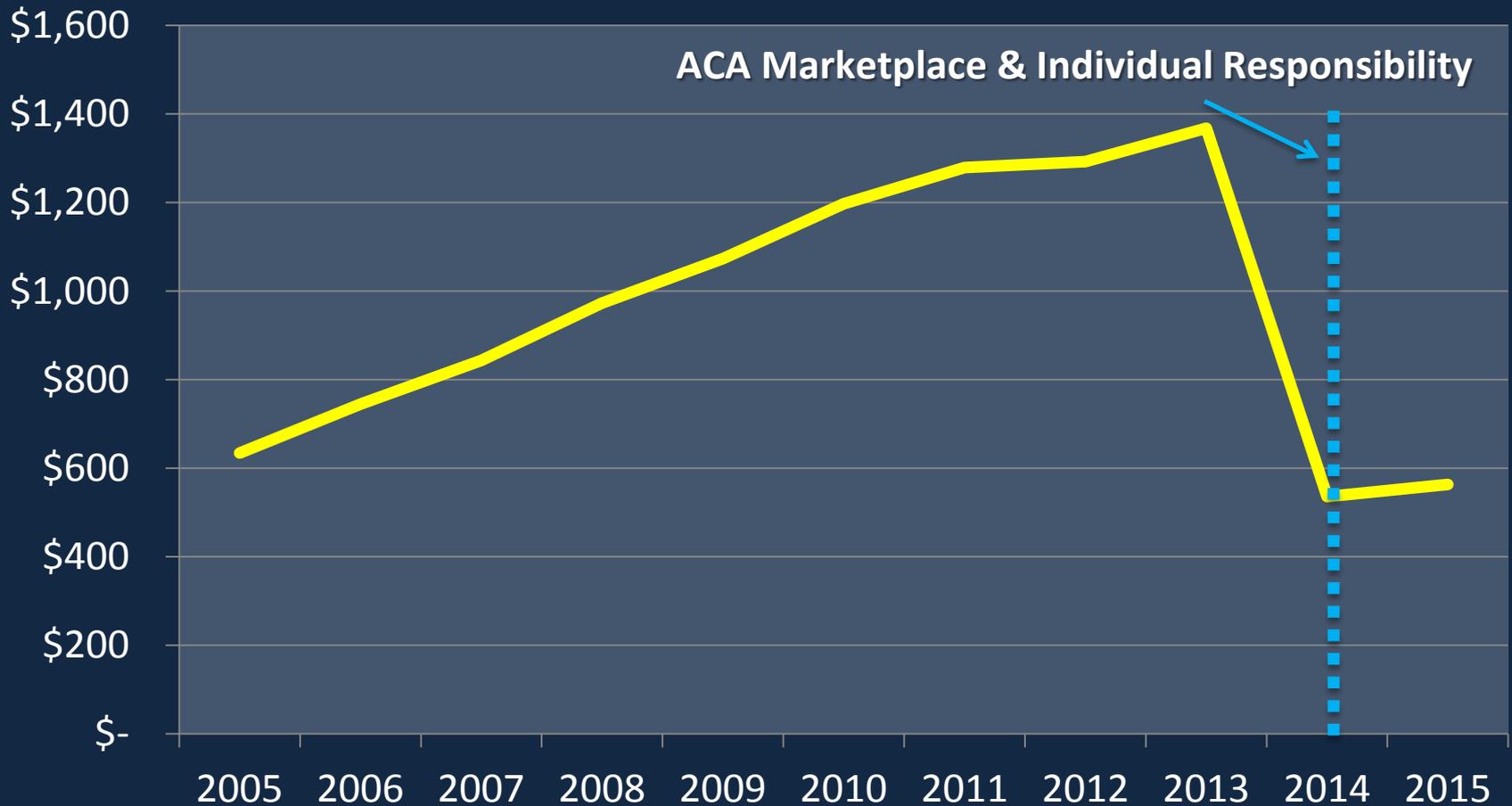
Compiled by Democratic Staff on the Education and the Workforce Committee
Source: Census Bureau, *Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by Selected Characteristics*, years 2000-2010.

The Affordable Care Act is Comprehensive

- Health insurance reform needed a comprehensive and universal approach – otherwise people would wait until they get sick to buy insurance.
- Covers everyone to prevent “cherry picking” or adverse selection.

New York State Case Study: Average Statewide Individual Health Insurance Premiums

2005 – 2015



The ACA Provides Meaningful Benefits & Consumer Protections

Benefits for Everyone:

- ✓ No discrimination based on pre-existing conditions
 - ✓ No rescission of benefits
- ✓ Preventive care without co-pay or deductible
- ✓ Young adults can stay on their parents' policies until age 26
 - ✓ Caps on out-of-pocket spending
 - ✓ No annual/lifetime limits on coverage

Benefits for Those With Insurance:

- ✓ Greater security if you choose to switch jobs or start your own business
- ✓ Marketplace alternatives if other coverage is inadequate or unaffordable
- ✓ Reduced cost shifting – more people have insurance and can pay for care

Benefits for Those Without Insurance:

- ✓ Access to Marketplace plans or Medicaid in expansion states
- ✓ Financial assistance for families with incomes at or below \$97,000 (family of four)

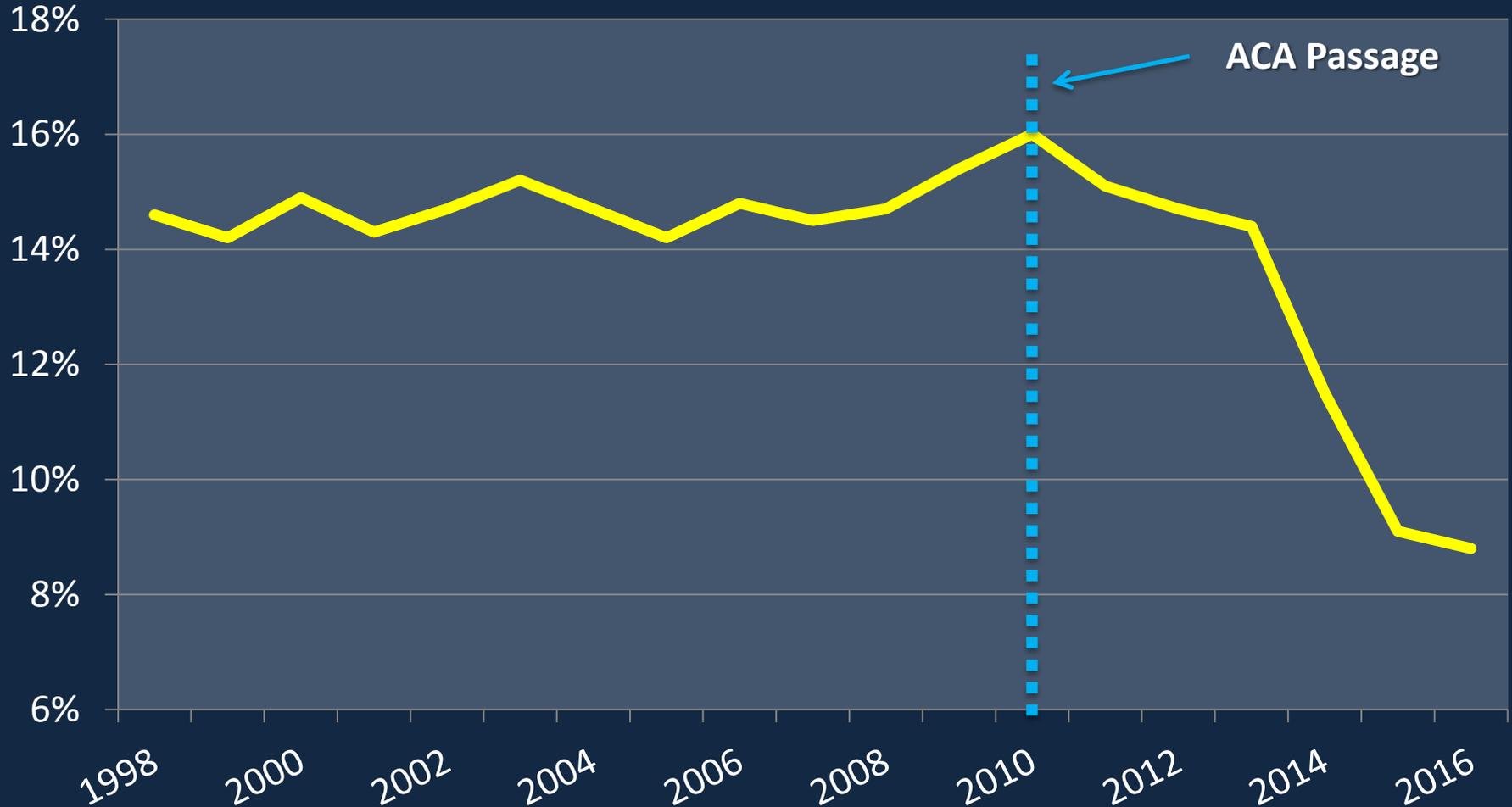
The Affordable Care Act

7 Years Later

- Overall, over 20 million previously uninsured Americans have gained health insurance coverage.
- 129 million Americans with preexisting health conditions, including 17 million children, no longer have to worry about being denied coverage or charged higher premiums due to their health status.
- More than 11 million seniors have saved more than \$23.5 billion on their prescription drugs since 2010 – an average savings of \$2,127 per senior.
- Unnecessary hospital readmissions in Medicare have fallen for the first time on record, dropping 8 percent between 2010 and 2015. Since 2010, Medicare beneficiaries have avoided 565,000 hospital readmissions.
- 87,000 lives and nearly \$20 billion have been saved due to a 17 percent reduction in hospital-acquired conditions, such as infections, from 2010 to 2014.

National Uninsurance Rate Drops Dramatically after ACA

1998 – 2016



Growth in Average Annual Premiums in Employer-Sponsored Insurance Has Slowed

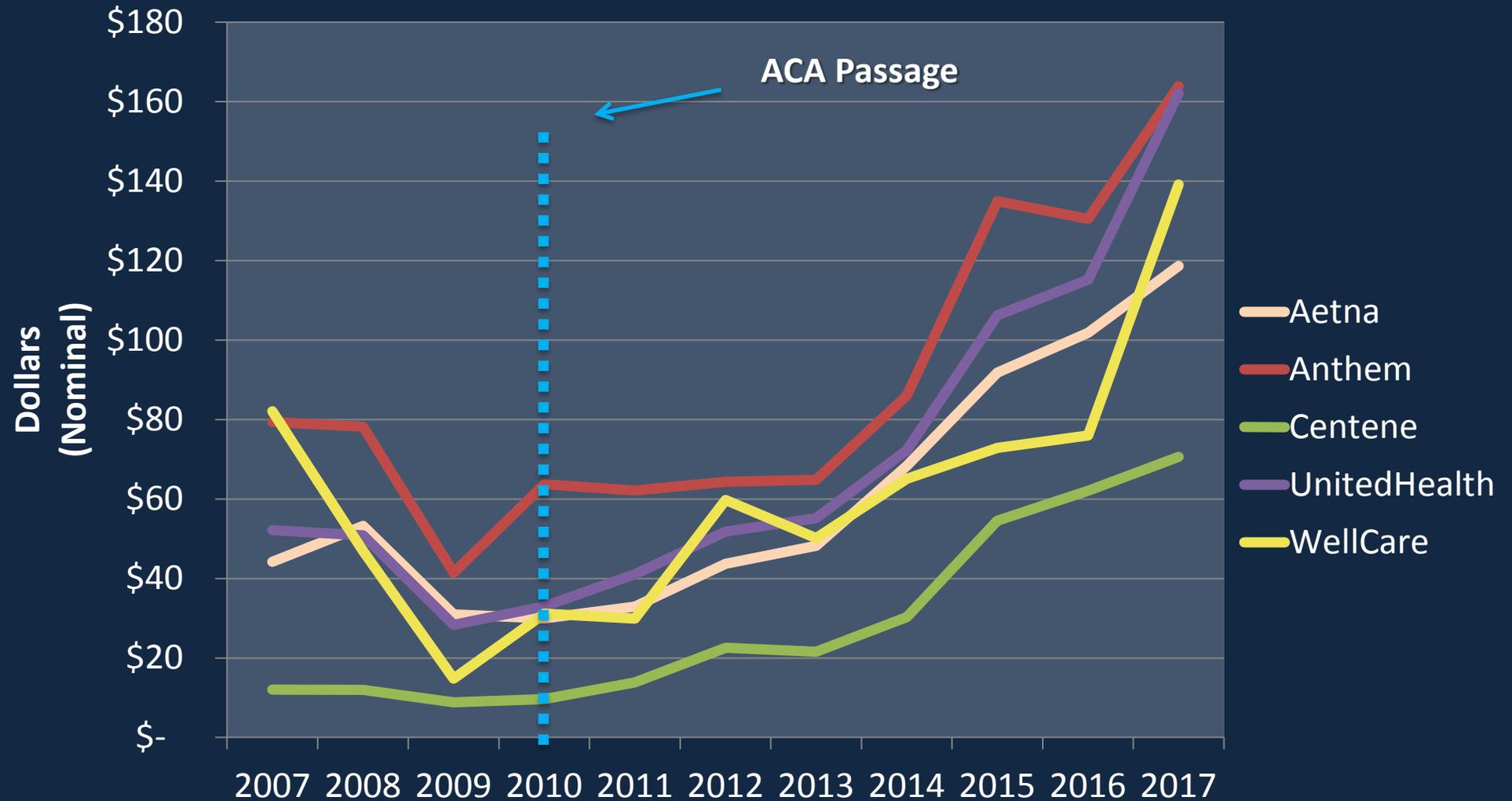
Family Coverage, 2000 – 2016

— Average Premiums Presuming 2000-2010 Growth — Actual Average Premiums



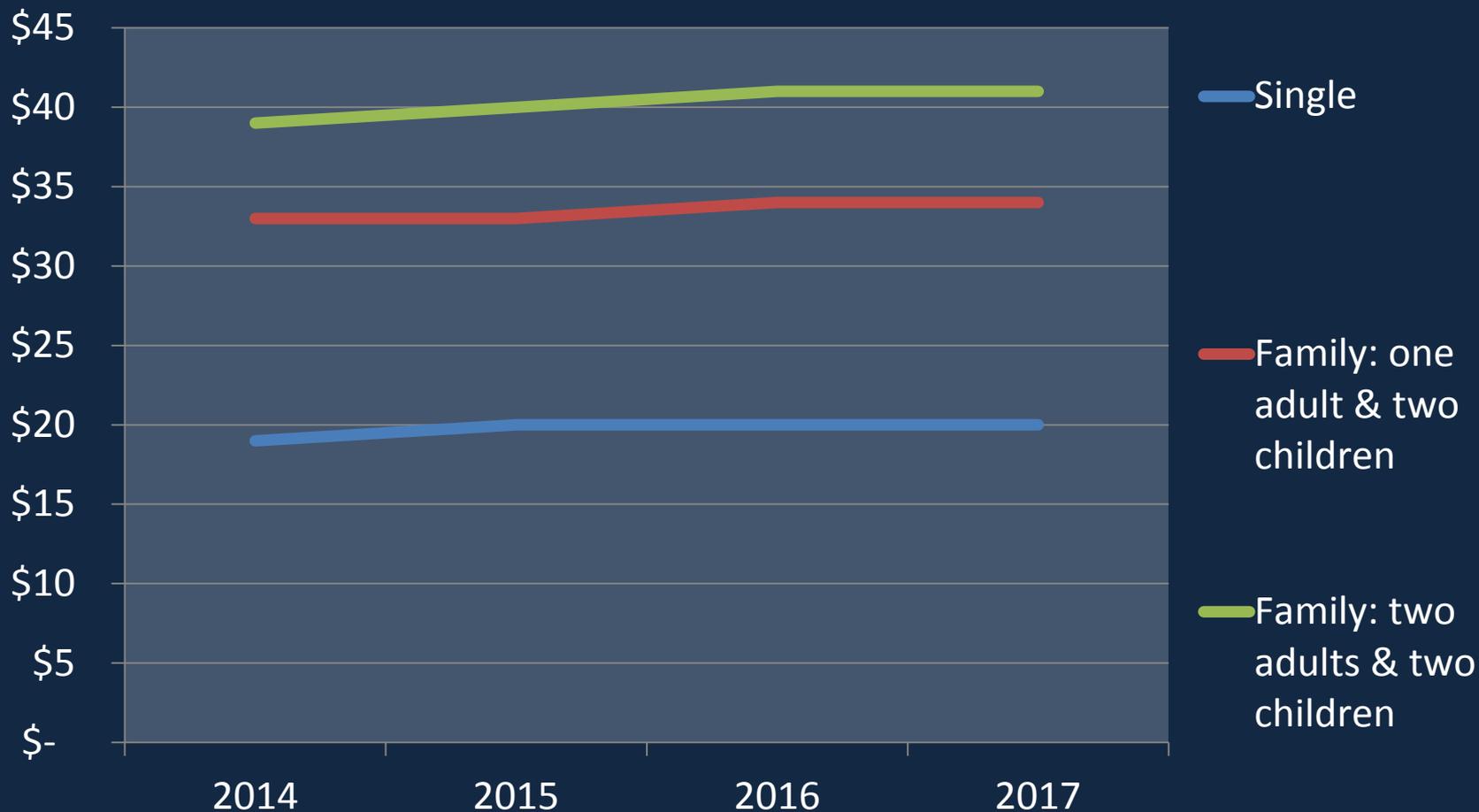
Health Care Company Stock Prices

2007-2017



ACA Tax Credit Adapts to Actual Cost

Example 1: Out of Pocket Monthly Premium for Silver Plan at 100% Federal Poverty Level



For 2017 plans, 100% FPL is \$11,880 for a single person; \$24,300 for a four-person family.

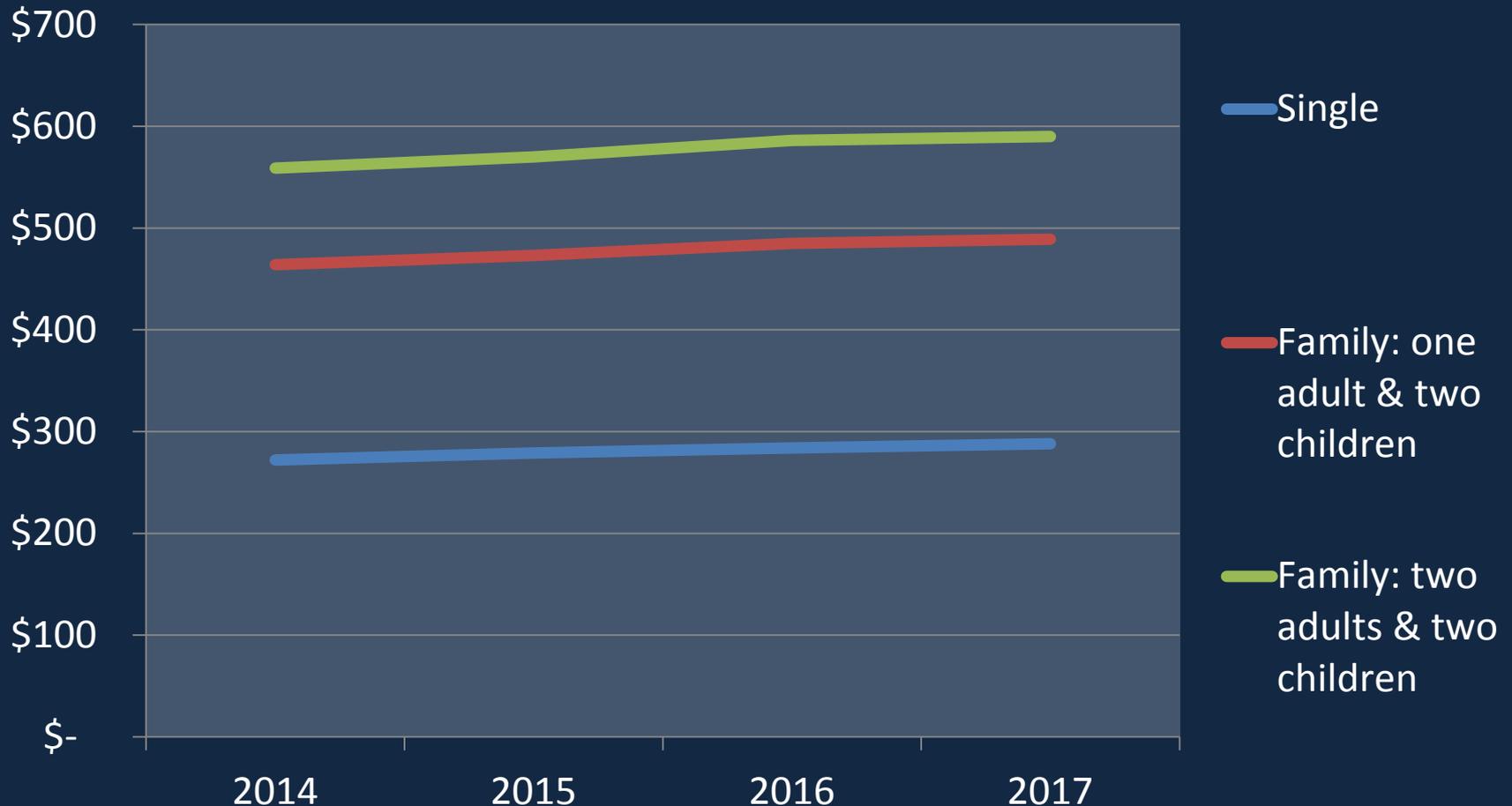
Compiled by Democratic Staff on the Education and the Workforce Committee

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Premium Calculator

Notes: 2014 values divide annual premiums by 12; All estimates assume residency in Newport News and adults are non-smokers, 40 years of age without an offer of employer-sponsored insurance.

ACA Tax Credit Adapts to Actual Cost

Example 2: Out of Pocket Monthly Premium for Silver Plan at 300% Federal Poverty Level



For 2017 plans, 300% FPL is \$35,640 for a single person; \$72,900 for a four-person family.

Compiled by Democratic Staff on the Education and the Workforce Committee

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Premium Calculator

Notes: 2014 values divide annual premiums by 12; All estimates assume residency in Newport News and adults are non-smokers, 40 years of age without an offer of employer-sponsored insurance. Single plan in 2014 is not eligible for a tax credit and shows actual cost.

- Over the past seven years, Republicans have voted over 60 times to repeal parts or all of the Affordable Care Act.
- This month, House Republicans passed the American Health Care Act (also known as Trumpcare) to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.
- The legislation was passed before any nonpartisan analysis on the legislation was complete.

What Does the Bill Do?

- Provides tax relief for high-income families, insurers, drug companies, and manufacturers of medical devices.
- Eliminates the current tax credits and cost-sharing subsidies that help families afford health insurance in the Marketplace; replaces them with tax credits that are not tied to the cost of coverage or income.
- Allows insurers to charge older adults much higher premiums than what they charge young adults for the same coverage – a practice that is currently prohibited.
- Guts Medicaid – a program that funds health care and supportive services for the elderly, people with disabilities, students, and families – by cutting billions.
- Allows states to roll back protections included in the ACA, including:
 - The protection that requires insurers to provide a minimum set of health benefits, such as maternity care and emergency services
 - Prohibition on charging higher premiums based on a person's health status or preexisting conditions

Last week, the Congressional Budget Office released its assessment of the final version of the *American Health Care Act* (Trumpcare) that passed the House of Representatives.

Congressional Budget Office's Analysis

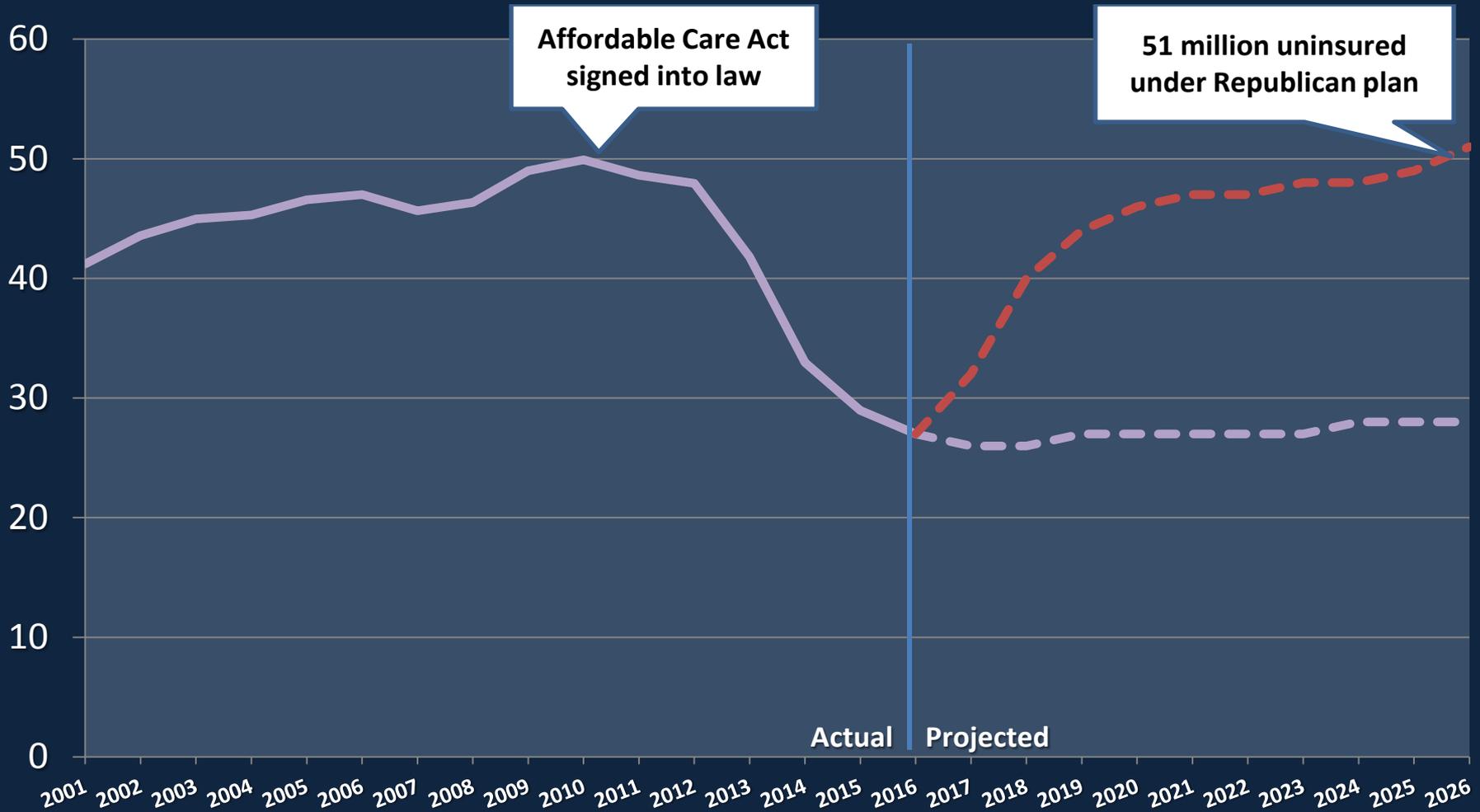
“The increase in the number of uninsured people relative to the number projected under current law would reach 19 million in 2020 and 23 million in 2026.”

“People who are less healthy (including those with preexisting or newly acquired medical conditions) would ultimately be unable to purchase comprehensive nongroup health insurance at premiums comparable to those under current law, if they could purchase it at all...”

“...Insurance, on average, would pay for a smaller proportion of health care costs.”

Number of Uninsured Would Skyrocket under Republican Plan

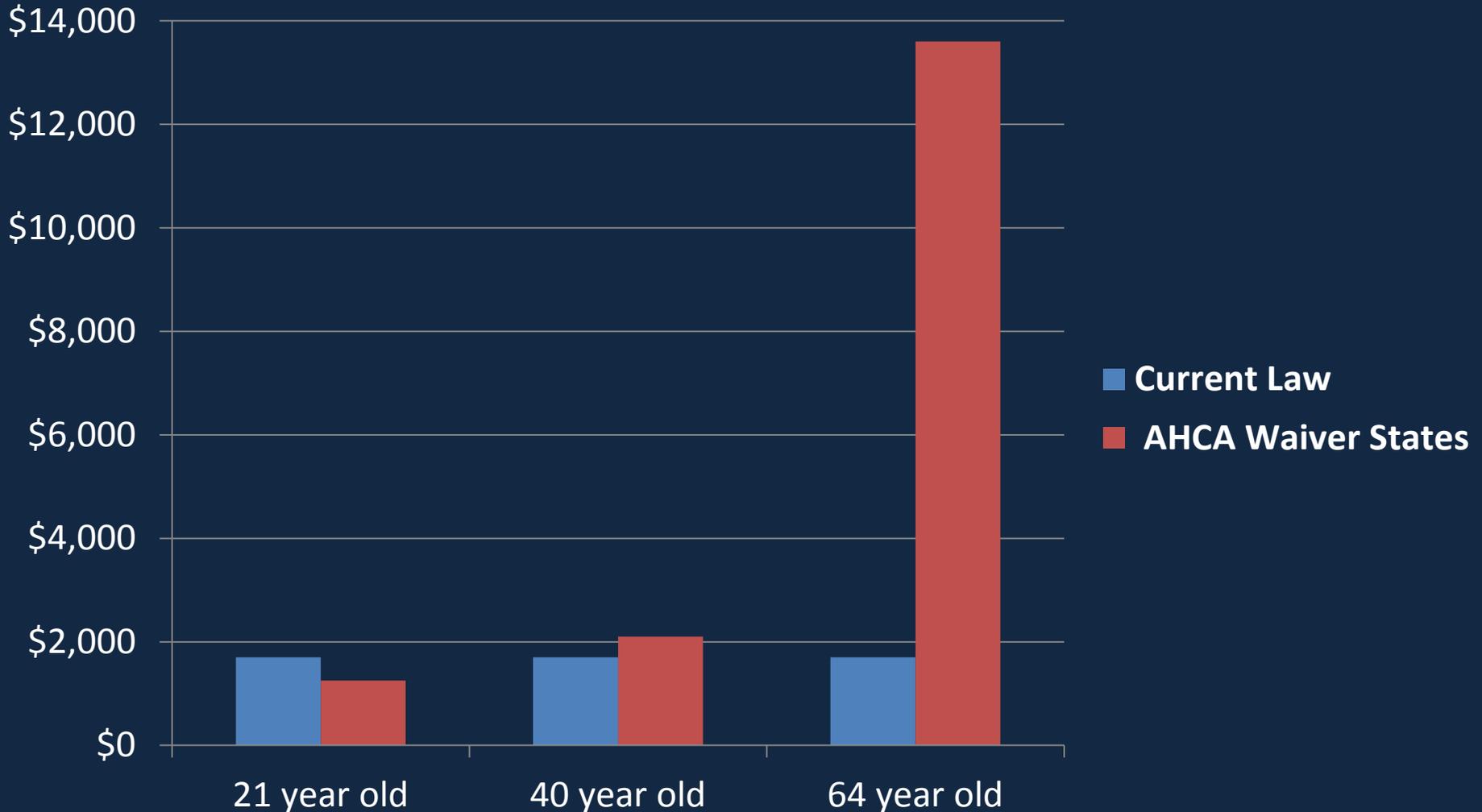
Uninsured in millions



Compiled by Democratic Staff on the Education and the Workforce Committee
Source: Census Bureau, *Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by Selected Characteristics*, years 2001-2015; Congressional Budget Office.

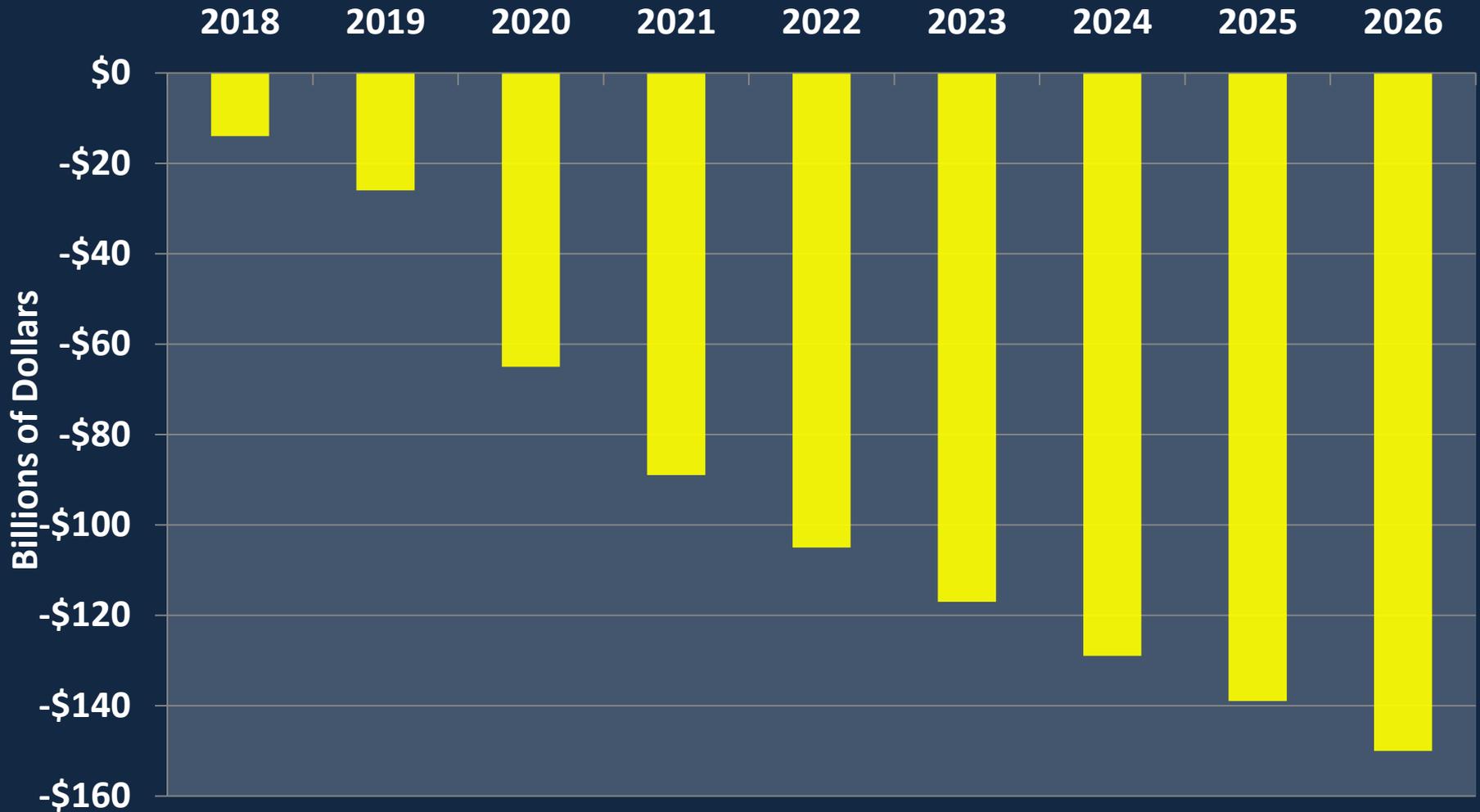
Republican Plan Increases Costs

Out of Pocket Average Annual Premium For Single Individual with Income of \$26,500



Compiled by Democratic Staff on the Education and the Workforce Committee
Source: Congressional Budget Office, *Cost Estimate of the American Health Care Act*

Over \$800 Billion in Cuts to Medicaid



Compiled by Democratic Staff on the Education and the Workforce Committee
Source: Congressional Budget Office, *Cost Estimate of the American Health Care Act*

By Every Measure, the Republican Plan is Worse Than Current Law

Number of People with Insurance ↓

23 million more people without insurance and 3 million people lose access to job-based coverage.

Quality of Coverage ↓

Ends the ACA's comprehensive Essential Health Benefits package, which requires coverage for maternity and newborn care, prescription drugs, mental health services, and addiction treatment. Insurers could charge extra for needed coverage, such as coverage for chemotherapy.

Protections for People with Preexisting Conditions ↓

Ends the ACA's guaranteed protections for people with preexisting conditions. Allows discrimination against those with preexisting conditions, who will face higher costs and will be ultimately unable to afford health care coverage.

Continued...

Cost of Coverage ↑

Imposes an 'age tax' on older Americans between the ages of 50 and 64, who will see their premiums skyrocket. Premiums for low-income, older enrollees could go up 850%.

Jobs ↓

Nearly 2 million fewer jobs in the next five years.

Tax Breaks for Millionaires ↑

More than \$600 billion in tax breaks to the rich and corporations. On average, those making more than \$1 million a year would receive a tax cut of \$50,000 a year.

Compiled by Democratic Staff on the Education and Workforce Committee

Sources: Congressional Budget Office, *Cost Estimate of the American Health Care Act*; House GOP Health Plan *Eliminates Two Medicare Taxes, Giving Very Large Tax Cuts to the Wealthy*; Economic Policy Institute, *The AHCA Could Cost as Many as 1.8 Million Jobs by 2022*.

Stay Connected with your Congressman and the Committee on Education and the Workforce!

Online at
democrats-edworkforce.house.gov

Online at
bobbyscott.house.gov



On Facebook
[/EdWorkforceDems](https://www.facebook.com/EdWorkforceDems)



On Facebook
[/RepBobbyScott](https://www.facebook.com/RepBobbyScott)



On Twitter
[@EdWorkforceDems](https://twitter.com/EdWorkforceDems)



On Twitter
[@BobbyScott](https://twitter.com/BobbyScott)



On Instagram
[@EdWorkforceDems](https://www.instagram.com/EdWorkforceDems)



On Instagram
[@RepBobbyScott](https://www.instagram.com/RepBobbyScott)