

# IAA Legislative Ledger



Q2-2017, August 7, 2017

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## Affordable Health Care (ACA) On Life Support?

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### **Congress Fails To Act on Repeal and Replace... What does this mean to Employer Sponsored Plans?**

#### **First things first, where are we now?**

No Repeal and Replace is actually just going to mean tinkering with existing ACA. However, it is also the most probable final outcome, and because it is retaining and “improving” ACA, it could attract some Democrat Party votes.

Republicans seem to be caught between a rock and a hard spot. Because they got bad reaction over the Senate Bill on their last recent home break, they came back to DC more cautious. I don't know if they are catching heat again, or whether they are encountering all sides of the general populace are just fed-up and disgusted by the whole show. You may have noticed that Republican Senators are not rushing to be visible to committing to anything, and not appearing on prime TV interview shows. What they have discovered is that the provisions are so emotional (opioid funding, abortions, planned parenthood, Medicaid, subsidies, etc.) that any discussion is a minefield with explosive headlines the next day from whatever interest group feels offended or cut.

Supporting one of the bills can also bring havoc to those in support of a replacement bill, especially during the reconciliation process. Reconciliation bills can have last-minute amendments from both parties. So, it is not

uncommon for some last moment (sometimes the middle of the night) amendment might be inserted unread. Then any Congressman who ever said anything nice about the bill is branded as horrible etc. for supporting such a “cruel” bill (even though the offending provision was not in the bill when the Congressman mentioned support for it). That could end a Congressional career. This is a no win position for anyone that takes a position.

Remember, health policy translates into gigantic business increases or losses in the home district or state. For example, ACA brought a 15% increase in total revenue to hospitals just in 2013-2015, plus a 35% plunge (\$272 million in 2015) of charity care, according to US News & World Report. Do you want to be the Congressman known as taking that away from the hospitals and jobs and support businesses in your district or state?

#### **What now for employer plans? Stay the course!**

Sometimes not making any changes can be expensive. In the case of ongoing ACA; employers are still required to offer plans with mandates and unlimited coverage, pay the fees, taxes (Cadillac tax still in play) and continue to provide the government requested reports, including 1094/1095 Forms.

With that being said, IAA will continue to offer our clients and prospects viable solutions to fit their budget.

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## What about Government Reporting?

Our 1094/1095 services will still be available to our clients. We also have an option for Non IAA client employers that are not enrolled in our administrative services, but need help with the Form preparation.

If you have questions or need assistance with form preparation, contact Rebecca Friedman at IAA. Rebecca's contact information is: email: [rebeccafriedman@iaatpa.com](mailto:rebeccafriedman@iaatpa.com) or telephone: 856.470.1200 (Ex 252).

Other services related to employee benefits that are available from IAA:

- Consumer Directed: FSA, HRA, HSA, Transit/Parking administration
- COBRA Administration
- Summary Plan Description Preparation
- Level and Partially Funded Self-Insurance Medical/Dental/Rx/Vision
- Family Medical Leave administration

If any further progress is made with the ACA, we will be sure to let you know.

Enjoy the rest of your day!

*Thank you,  
Paul Kelly, President*