



American Medical **Women's** Association
Empowering Women & Improving Health Care Since 1915

March 16, 2017

AMWA Statement on the American Health Care Act (AHCA)

The American Medical Women's Association is concerned about the impact that the "American Health Care Act" (AHCA), will have on women's health and access to care for women, minority groups, and low income patients. Founded in 1915, AMWA is oldest multi-specialty organization of women in medicine.

AMWA is specifically concerned that under the AHCA, there will be decreased coverage of health services to women, minorities, and low-income populations through the partial defunding of Planned Parenthood which currently provides primary care services to 2.5 million women and men, rollback of Medicaid expansion, and lack of a federally mandated requirement for maternity coverage.

In addition, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) predicts that adoption of the AHCA would result in approximately 24 million Americans losing coverage within 10 years, with about 14 million consumers losing coverage in 2018. Overall, the CBO analysis reveals that a total of 52 million Americans would be uninsured in 2026 if the AHCA were enacted, compared to 28 million under the ACA.

The repeal of funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund (established under the ACA) would also eliminate crucial funds which have been dedicated to public health and prevention in order to help reduce the burden of chronic disease.

We urge Congress not to vote in support of legislation that will negatively impact the health of millions of Americans.

Kim Templeton, MD
President
American Medical Women's Association