



ATR Urges Support & Co-sponsorship of S. 172, the Health Insurance Tax Relief Act

January 23, 2019

Dear Senator:

I write to urge support and co-sponsorship of S.172, the Health Insurance Tax Relief Act, introduced by Senators Cory Gardner (R-Colo.), Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), Doug Jones (D-Ala.), Tim Scott (R-S.C.), and Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.). **This bipartisan legislation suspends the Obamacare health insurance tax for 2020 and 2021, saving taxpayers an average of \$1,000 over the next two years.**

If Congress fails to act soon, the moratorium on the health insurance tax will lapse, creating a \$16 billion tax on health insurance premiums next year.

This will harm more than 141 million consumers, including those purchasing care through the individual market, large and small group plans, Medicare Advantage, and Medicare Part D.

If the health insurance tax does go into effect, it [will increase](#) premiums by 2.2 percent per year and by almost \$6,000 over the next decade for a typical family of four with small or large group insurance. This tax is also highly regressive – half of the HIT is [paid](#) by those earning less than \$50,000 a year.

The tax would also exact an enormous burden on small businesses and our economy as it is estimated to [directly impact](#) as many as 1.7 million small businesses.

In a time of divided government, acting on the health insurance tax has bipartisan support: 77 percent of registered voters [support](#) delay or full repeal of the Health Insurance Tax, according to polling released by Morning Consult.

It is imperative that lawmakers swiftly repeal or delay this unfair, burdensome tax and give certainty and relief to families and businesses. Senators can demonstrate their opposition to the tax and support for repeal and delay by co-sponsorship of the Health Insurance Tax Relief Act.

Onward,

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