

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 9, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-230
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-221
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building, Room H-232
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building, Room H-204
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Minority Leaders Schumer and McCarthy:

We write regarding the urgent need to fully repeal the 40 percent excise tax on higher premium employer-provided health plans, commonly referred to as the Cadillac Tax. Failure to act will result in higher-deductibles and loss of coverage for American workers and their families.

Our legislation, the Middle-Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act of 2019, (S. 684/ H.R. 748) has 63 bipartisan cosponsors in the Senate and passed the House with an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 419 to 6 in July.

The House vote, Senate support, and three implementation delays enacted by prior Congresses reflects an overwhelming consensus that the Cadillac Tax should be fully repealed. This punitive tax, if allowed to take effect, will raise health insurance costs for working Americans.

The status quo creates uncertainty as employers, and employee representatives negotiate benefits packages that extend well into 2022, when the tax is currently set to go into effect. A fourth delay is not a viable option. The ongoing uncertainty is already threatening the quality of employer sponsored health insurance. The time is now to act in the best interest of the American people and repeal the Cadillac Tax.

According to polling by Fox News, Kaiser Health and Gallup, health care remains a top concern for American families. The American public demands that Congress act to address the growing crisis of health care affordability. Repealing the 40 percent tax has wide bipartisan support and is a worthwhile first step. Postponing repeal is no longer an option.

We look forward to working with you to secure lasting relief for America's working families.
Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Martin Heinrich
U.S. Senator



M. Michael Rounds
U.S. Senator



Joe Courtney
U.S Representative



Mike Kelly
U.S. Representative