

American Health Care Act: Most Disgraceful Legislation Since Congress Was Founded

By [Larry Hanley](#)

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Larry Hanley, international president of the Amalgamated Transit Union, issued the following statement in reaction to the House of Representatives passing the American Health Care Act.

This immoral legislation – a tax bill benefiting the very wealthy masquerading as a health care measure – is perhaps the most disgraceful proposal put forth by Congress since it was founded in 1789.

The American Health Care Act (AHCA) is the equivalent of a death sentence for thousands of Americans who will be thrown off of health insurance. Millions of others who will not get to a doctor when they must will get extremely sick, losing their jobs, their homes, and their way of life.

There's no question that the *Affordable Care Act* (ACA) — including its so-called 'Cadillac Tax' which is going to drop like a hammer on working families — is flawed. So, let's fix it, and include Medicare for all as a basic healthcare benefit. We can pay for this by reducing unnecessary expenditures and expanding current taxes. We should also put in place strict price controls on greedy hospitals and drug companies. This would be a huge savings to average Americans and finally make us equal to people all over the world regarding our health care – a basic human right.

Borrowing from Bill Clinton, when it comes to the ACA, we should mend it, not end it. While changes are certainly needed, any sane person can understand that ripping away a person's life preserver and tossing them a twig is unconscionable.

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