TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KIM REYNOLDS
LT. GOVERNOR

March 23, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell,
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230 United States Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan, Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232 United States Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell and Speaker Ryan,

Congress must repeal and replace Obamacare, because it is unaffordable, unworkable, and unsustainable. We must replace it with health care reform that is affordable for all Iowans, empowers the consumer to have high quality health care, and provides states the flexibility they need to afford and sustain their Medicaid programs. The American Health Care Act is the first step in the process of repealing and replacing Obamacare.

Congress has taken the first steps to repeal and replace, however Congress and the Trump Administration must continue efforts to repeal and replace Obamacare through legislative and administrative action. The American Health Care Act is not the end of this process. I appreciate the first steps President Trump has taken through his executive order to provide immediate relief. In addition, I am encouraged by the actions taken by Secretary Price at the Department of Health and Human Services and Administrator Verma at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to provide additional immediate and long-term relief from the damage done by Obamacare.

States must be given true flexibilities to administer their individual Medicaid programs. The American Health Care Act is the first step in an ongoing process to reform and grant states true flexibilities in their Medicaid program. I look forward to a true partnership with Secretary Price and Administrator Verma to continue reforming and granting states true Medicaid flexibility so we can administer and sustain our Medicaid program.

Sincerely,

Terry E. Branstad
Governor of Iowa

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