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November 15, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer and
Speaker Ryan and Minority Leader Pelosi:

On behalf of the 16,000 members of the American Thoracic Society (ATS), I am writing to express the ATS's serious concern with the most recent version of Senate tax reform legislation that includes a measure to repeal the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) individual health insurance mandate.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, elimination of the individual insurance requirement would have significant and destabilizing effects on the health insurance market including; 13 million additional American's losing health insurance, higher premiums, deductible and copays for those who remain in the insurance market, and destabilization of the private insurance market through adverse selection. This is unacceptable and we urge you to remove this provision from tax reform legislation.

As president of the ATS, I ask you to address health care through the bipartisan Alexander-Murray legislation that will stabilize health insurance markets and prevent individuals from losing health coverage.

Sincerely,



Marc Moss, M.D.
President
American Thoracic Society

