



Update on Legislative Efforts to Repeal and Replace the Affordable Care Act

April 14, 2017

The White House and Congressional leaders are continuing discussions on how to pass a modified version of the American Health Care Act (AHCA). This is the legislation to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that was pulled from consideration in the House of Representatives on March 24. There is no indication that any of the changes to the AHCA currently being proposed would be sufficient to gain enough votes to pass the legislation any time soon. During this period of uncertainty, NDSS encourages our advocates to continue reaching out to their Members of Congress to educate them on how certain changes to Medicaid and repeal of the ACA present serious problems for people with Down syndrome and their families. Information about those impacts can be found at [Health Care Reforms Impacting People with Disabilities](#).

During the [2017 Buddy Walk® on Washington](#) on April 5, over 350 advocates from 38 states met with over 270 Congressional offices to, among other things, urge opposition to future changes to Medicaid and the health care system that are detrimental to people with Down syndrome. The NDSS Public Policy Team is continuing to meet with policymakers in Washington to explain why Medicaid and other reforms enacted as part of the ACA are needed to support people with Down syndrome to live and work in their communities, develop assets that reduce dependence on public benefits and avoid costly and segregated institutions.

It is important that we do more than just urge Members of Congress to oppose the AHCA. They need to understand how and why these federal programs are personally important to you and your family. By telling our personal stories, we can help to ensure that these programs will continue to be available for people with Down syndrome and other disabilities.

If you have questions or would like more information, please visit www.ndss.org or contact us at info@ndss.org. Thank you for your continued and dedicated advocacy on behalf of individuals with Down syndrome.