



Representative Kristi Noem
2457 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

July 10, 2018

Representative Kyrsten Sinema
1725 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Jackie Walorski
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ami Bera
1431 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Noem, Sinema, Walorski and Bera:

On behalf of the National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU), we commend you on your efforts to pass legislation to delay the Health Insurance Tax. NAHU is a professional association representing more than 100,000 licensed health insurance agents, brokers, general agents, consultants and employee benefits specialists.

H.R. 5963 would delay the imposition of the annual fee on health insurance providers until after 2020. This bipartisan legislation would extend the moratorium of the HIT that will take effect for 2019 and provide additional time for lawmakers to enact a permanent solution to a tax that is due to add \$500 in premiums per affected family every year.

The tax, dubbed a fee, is assessed on all health insurance companies of insured plans both inside and outside the exchange based on their net premiums written. While it is charged to insurers to help pay for the ACA, it is ultimately passed along, in the form of increased premiums, to small businesses, middle-income families, seniors and young workers, with more than half of the tax paid for by those earning between \$10,000 and \$50,000. Over a 10-year period, this tax is projected to increase premiums for individual coverage by an average of \$2,150 and family coverage by an average of \$5,080.

In a time when health insurance costs are already volatile, we can ill afford adding taxes onto increasingly high premiums and pricing people out of coverage. As sponsors of H.R. 5963, you have shown your commitment to affordable health insurance and demonstrated to your constituents that you are focused on helping small businesses grow and create jobs. In the coming months, insurers and employers will begin to plan for their 2020 coverage options, and they need Congress to act now to delay the HIT to ensure that it is not passed onto American families for 2020.

We appreciate your leadership on this important issue for individuals, business owners and seniors, and look forward to working with you and your colleagues in enacting this bipartisan legislation this year.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Trautwein".

Janet Trautwein
Executive Vice President and CEO