REPUBLICAN MAIN STREET PARTNERSHIP’S MAIN STREET LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 117TH CONGRESS

Healthcare

Healthcare is one of the most pressing issues facing our country today. RMSP believes Main Street American families deserve access to quality, affordable healthcare coverage. This means protecting care for pre-existing conditions, heightening transparency in our healthcare system, and tackling some of the largest health epidemics in our country head-on with pragmatic solutions that won’t leave the nation bankrupt.

Pre-existing Conditions:

- H.R.692 - Pre-existing Conditions Protection Act of 2019
  Prohibits exclusion of pre-existing conditions and guarantees the availability of health insurance coverage in the individual and group market in the case that Obamacare is repealed.


  If Obamacare is found to be illegal or incapable of being enforced, this bill protects (1) the availability and renewability of coverage, or (2) the prohibitions against discriminatory coverage practices based on preexisting conditions or health status.

- **H.R.4159 - Maintaining Protections for Patients with Preexisting Conditions Act of 2019**

  The legislation amends the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) by adding provisions from Obamacare in the case that it is overturned. The pre-existing conditions provisions include guaranteed issue and renewability, a prohibition on pre-existing condition benefit exclusions, a ban on health status underwriting, and inclusion of community rating.


**Medical Transparency:**

- **H.R.3630 - No Surprises Act**

  This bill protects healthcare plan holders from being gouged by surprise hospital bills charging out-of-network rates in the case of medical emergencies that are not within the consumer's existing insurance network by requiring the out-of-network provider to charge their median in-network rate and prohibiting the out-of-network provider from charging consumers the difference between in-network and out-of-network rates. It also requires the establishment of provider directories published by insurance companies.

**Sponsors/Co-Sponsors:** Rep. Greg Walden*

**Drug Pricing:**

- **H.R. 19 - Lower Cost More Cures Act**

  Lowers out of pocket spending on prescription drugs, protects access to new cures and medications, strengthens transparency, and encourages competition without stifling innovation.


Opioid Crisis:

- H.R.2439 - Opioid Workforce Act of 2019

  This bill increases the number of residency positions eligible for graduate medical education payments under Medicare for hospitals that have addiction or pain management programs, with an aggregate increase of 1,000 positions over a five-year period.


- H.R.1614 - John S. McCain Opioid Addiction Prevention Act

  This bill establishes a new registration requirement for practitioners who are licensed to prescribe controlled substances. Specifically, a practitioner must agree to limit the supply of opioids prescribed for the initial treatment of acute pain, as a condition of obtaining or renewing a registration through the Drug Enforcement Administration.


Maternal Health:

- H.R.4215 - Excellence in Maternal Health Act of 2019

  This bill would improve maternal health care quality, improve the training of health care professionals to prevent discrimination in health care services, and improve perinatal care.


- H.R.2507 - Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act of 2019

  This bill would promote expanded screening of newborns and children for hereditary disorders.

Mental Health:

- H.R.1109 - Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2019

This bill would provide funding for public schools across the country to partner with local mental health professionals to establish on-site mental health care services for students.


Family Issues

Empowering women lifts families as a whole. Supporting women in the workplace, in school and at home ultimately ensures American families and the future generations they are raising are set up to succeed.

Equal Pay:

- H.R.1935 - Wage Equity Act of 2019

Closes the wage gap between men and women in the workplace while empowering both employees and businesses alike.


Paid Child Care:

- (H.R. TBD) Advancing Support for Working Families Act

The Advancing Support for Working Families Act would allow families the option to advance up to $5,000 of their recently-doubled child tax credit in the first year of a child's life or the first year a family adopts a child.

- H.R.3397 - Child and Dependent Care Modernization Act of 2019
This bill increases the tax exclusion to up to $8,000 for employer-provided dependent care assistance and allows individuals to carry forward into the next taxable year unused flexible spending arrangement account balances.

**Sponsors/Co-Sponsors:** Rep. Peter King, Rep. Steve Stivers

- **H.R.4253** - Empower Parents in College Act of 2019

  Provides increased access to childcare support for low-income parent-students.

  **Sponsors/Co-Sponsors:** Rep. Dusty Johnson*

**Workforce Development**

The American workforce is the backbone of our country and its economy. Together we must continue to develop solutions that make living the American dream more accessible for all skill sets and aspirations.

**Job Skills Gap:**


  Expands federal Pell Grant eligibility to technical education and training programs.


**Access to Capital:**

- **H.R.3050** - Expanding Investment in Small Businesses Act of 2019

  Cuts red tape for new small businesses trying to raise money and gain access to capital.


**Gun Violence**

Gun violence has reached a crisis point in this country. According to a recent poll conducted by RMSP, suburban women overwhelmingly want Congress to address gun violence with
meaningful legislative change. This does not mean taking guns out of the hands of lawful Americans, rather, it means addressing the root cause of an undeniable epidemic with measured, preventative action.

Red Flag Laws:

- H.R.2786 - Jake Laird Act of 2019
  
  *Empowers law enforcement to retain firearms from persons deemed dangerous via probable cause and due process to be a danger to themselves and/or others.*


- H.R.744 - Protecting Our Communities and Rights Act of 2019
  
  *Empowers states to protect persons who may be a danger to themselves and others through the use of extreme protection orders and due process.*


**Environment**

America is the most developed nation in the world, yet families across the country still wake up to substandard living conditions. We must do better to protect our planet to protect the families inhabiting it.

Clean Water:

- H.R. 535, The PFAS Action Act
  
  *This bill requires the Environmental Protection Agency to designate all perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (fluorinated chemicals) as hazardous substances within one year of enactment of this bill.*

  **Sponsors/Co-Sponsors:** Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, Rep. Fred Upton

Clean Technology:

- H.R.5523 - Energy Sector Innovation Credit Act of 2019
  
  *Incentivizes new, sustainable energy technology to be brought to market.*

  **Sponsors/Co-Sponsors:** Rep. Tom Reed