

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

April 29, 2019

Chairman Richard Neal
Ways & Means Committee
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Neal,

Today, the Committee on Rules will hold a hearing on H.R. 1384, the Medicare for All Act of 2019. Given that the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over this bill, we call on you to promptly schedule a hearing on H.R. 1384.

Since you are not a co-sponsor of H.R. 1384 and have said “the idea that overnight you’re going to take 20 percent of the American economy and transform it is not realistic,”¹ we suspect you may share the same concerns about H.R.1384 that we and many other Americans do. The bill’s significant cost and elimination of private health insurance plans, including taking away the health care plans of over 150 million working families in America, is dangerous. It would result in unprecedented disruptions and the end of Medicare as we know it.

More than 100 House Democrats have put their names behind the plan, signaling that H.R. 1384 is a critical part of your party’s plans for the future of health care in this country. In fact, eleven of our Democratic colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee are co-sponsors of H.R. 1384. Given their support, it is critical we get the opportunity to ask key questions about how this bill would impact health programs under our jurisdiction and the necessary increases in taxes the legislation would require.

Republicans—the party of Medicare Advantage, the Medicare prescription drug benefit, the Children’s Health Insurance Program and the original law protecting coverage at work for people with pre-existing conditions—stand ready to work with you to fix the broken status quo. A public accounting of H.R. 1384 is necessary to inform the working families and seniors we represent of the risks to their health coverage under this proposal.

Sincerely,


KEVIN BRADY
Republican Leader
Ways & Means Committee


DEVIN NUNES
Republican Leader, Health Subcommittee
Ways & Means Committee

¹ <https://www.gazettenet.com/Richard-Neal-visits-Gazette-editorial-board-19668270>