

July 19, 2017

Response to Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimates on Proposed Repeal and Replace Health Care Legislation

The Arthritis Foundation continues to be concerned about the Senate's legislative activities that would repeal or replace the Affordable Care Act. The Congressional Budget Office has released a number of cost estimates on different versions of the health care bill. In each case, coverage losses would be significant and increase the cost of health care for individuals with chronic diseases like arthritis.

"All Americans deserve a transparent health care system that allows them to make informed decisions and doesn't put them at risk for losing coverage," said Ann M. Palmer, CEO and president, Arthritis Foundation. "Americans need a health care bill that supports, rather than restricts, access to needed care for people with arthritis – already the No. 1 cause of disability in the United States. We urge the Senate and all members of Congress to engage the patient stakeholder community and work together in a bipartisan fashion to strengthen our nation's health care and craft legislation that includes the many important patient protections that people with arthritis need."