## September 19, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader United States Senate 317 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Charles E. Schumer Minority Leader United States Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

As you continue to consider changes to the American health care system, we ask you not to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson amendment and renew support for bipartisan efforts to make health care more available and affordable for all Americans. Only open, bipartisan approaches can achieve true, lasting reforms.

Chairman Lamar Alexander and Ranking Member Patty Murray have held bipartisan hearings in the Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and have negotiated in good faith to stabilize the individual market. At the committee's recent hearing with Governors, there was broad bipartisan agreement about many of the initial steps that need to be taken to make individual health insurance more stable and affordable. We are hopeful that the HELP committee, through an open process, can develop bipartisan legislation and we believe their efforts deserve support.

We ask you to support bipartisan efforts to bring stability and affordability to our insurance markets. Legislation should receive consideration under regular order, including hearings in health committees and input from the appropriate health-related parties. Improvements to our health insurance markets should control costs, stabilize the market, and positively impact coverage and care of millions of Americans, including many who are dealing with mental illness, chronic health problems, and drug addiction.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to improve the American health care system.

Sincerely,

John Hickenlooper

Walher

Governor

State of Colorado

John Kasich Governor

State of Ohio

Bill Walker Governor

State of Alaska

Steve Bullock

Governor

State of Montana

Tom Wolf Governor

State of Pennsylvania

John Bel Edwards

Governor

State of Louisiana

Charles D. Baker

Governor

State of Massachusetts

Terence R. McAuliffe

Governor

State of Virginia

Brian Sandoval

Governor

State of Nevada

Phil Scott Governor

State of Vermont