## PROTECT OUR CARE

## State Senator Rebecca Whitley, Zandra Rice Hawkins of Granite State Progress and Lisa Beaudoin Join Protect Our Care New Hampshire to Highlight How the GOP Health Care Agenda Will Hurt Granite Staters



## \*Watch the event here\*

**Concord, NH**– Today, State Senator Rebecca Whitley, Zandra Rice Hawkins of Granite State Progress and Lisa Beaudoin joined Protect Our Care New Hampshire to highlight how the MAGA Republican Party, led by Donald Trump, is <u>escalating their attacks</u> on American health care and doubling down on their plan to deny tens of millions of Americans affordable, lifesaving health care following the Republican National Convention last week. Speakers will discuss how MAGA Republican lawmakers and their allies continue to threaten to repeal the Affordable Care Act, while also working to dismantle reproductive care, hike premiums, slash Medicare and Medicaid, reverse recent coverage gains, and raise prescription drug costs on Granite Staters. On the other hand, the Biden-Harris administration and Congressional Democrats are committed to protecting and strengthening health care by lowering premium costs, extending prescription drug savings to everyone, protecting people with pre-existing conditions, and expanding Medicaid.

<u>Recent polling</u> from Protect Our Care demonstrates how health care remains a top issue to voters. A large majority – 80 percent of voters – said that the issue of health care will be important to them in voting this year, and the survey revealed overwhelming support for Democrats' plan to extend the Inflation Reduction Act's drug pricing reforms. The poll also found that 59 percent of voters agree more with the Biden-Harris administration and Democrats in Congress on protecting and strengthening the ACA, while fewer voters agree with MAGA Republicans' efforts to repeal the ACA.

State Senator Rebecca Whitley stated, "healthcare costs are already too high in New Hampshire. If Trump and his MAGA allies take power, these costs will only increase. This is the absolute wrong direction. We've worked hard in NH, in a bipartisan way, to expand access to health care for Granite Staters, including Medicaid expansion, supports for new moms and babies, mental health services, and supports and services for individuals with disabilities. We cannot go backwards and decimate the progress made here in New Hampshire. That's what will happen if Trump and his MAGA Allies take power and can implement their Project 2025 agenda.

Zandra Rice Hawkins, founding Executive Director of Granite State Progress remarked, "Unfortunately, rather than invest in Medicaid expansions that would equip the nation to provide services people need, the latest GOP budget proposal attacks the program. The GOP proposal slashes trillions from Medicaid through restructuring, makes it harder to access Medicaid with bureaucratic work reporting requirements, and continues to block coverage in the 10 states where over 1.5 million people have no access to healthcare because of the GOP's political opposition to the Affordable Care Act."

Lisa Beaudoin said, "The disability community needs candidates who recognize our basic human right to health care. And our economy can't withstand the disruption of our healthcare system being thrown into chaos. The lives of people I love depend on, my well-being depends on Americans saying to Trump and his minions "no, thank you, we're done with weirdness and chaos, we're leaning into loving our neighbors by protecting their healthcare and more robustly funding it."

Forrest Beaudoin-Friede proclaimed, "I'm here to share with you how Trump and his far-right extremists who wrote Project 2025 will make my life horrible. They are not only going to destroy the ACA. It's worse, they are coming after Medicaid, too. Medicaid provides healthcare for poor people and it does so much more. What most Americans do not know is that Medicaid houses the funding for long-term supports and services through Home and Community-Based Settings Rules. Known as the "HCBS rule," this is for people with disabilities, like me;and poor senior citizens. I have a robust community-based life because of Medicaid funding's HCBS rule.

You can watch the full event <u>here</u>, and learn more about the MAGA Republican attacks on affordable health care <u>here</u>.

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