

For Immediate Release

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Health Care Advocates and Protect Our Care North Carolina Hold Senator Tillis Accountable for Pre-Existing Conditions Vote

*Senator Thom Tillis' Vote Will Harm North Carolinians
With Pre-Existing Conditions*

****[Listen to the full call audio here](#)****

Raleigh, NC – After the Senate held a vote on the [Protect Pre-Existing Conditions Resolution](#), Protect Our Care North Carolina joined Brad Woodhouse, the Executive Director of Protect Our Care, Stacy Staggs of Little Lobbisysts, and Kara Konrad, a North Carolinaian with a pre-existing condition on a press call Thursday to condemn Senator Tillis' 'no' vote and failure to protect the health care of North Carolinians with pre-existing conditions.

The resolution that Senator Tillis voted against would curb the Trump administration's health care sabotage and block the expansion of junk health insurance plans, which discriminate against those with pre-existing conditions and leave patients paying more for care. Senator Tillis says he cares about protecting the [4,240,500 North Carolinians](#) with pre-existing conditions, but this vote shows he is putting a partisan political agenda ahead of his constituents.

Brad Woodhouse, the Executive Director of Protect Our Care criticized Senator Tillis' vote yesterday as further evidence that Senator Tillis is not working to protect North Carolinians:

"It is as predictable as the sun rising that Tom Tillis is going to stand against good policies to protect people's health care. There has not been anyone who has been at war with American healthcare and the health care of those in North Carolina more than Thom Tillis. His vote yesterday is the latest in a long line of him opposing common sense policies to help provide health care to the American people"

Stacy Staggs, whose twin daughters were born prematurely, and have a host of health complications and require 24/7 care, described the pain her family experiences every time Senator Tillis votes against the protections that allow her daughters to access health care:

"He is not considering the girls or any of the children like them in his votes. It has been very difficult to watch my Senators tell all of us, through their votes, that they don't care. They don't see the value of my girls' lives, and they are not worried about the medication that they take, the costs of prescriptions, the cost of health care"

Kara Konrad, who has a rare disease that affects her spinal cord that could leave her paralyzed if she cannot access care, slammed Senator Tillis for voting against the protections that allow her to manage this condition:

“Senator Tillis doesn’t care if I am alive or dead. He doesn’t care if my child has a mother. He continues to vote against anything that would keep me alive. With the way he votes, insurance companies would be able to put not only lifetime cap, but a yearly cap on benefits. If you’re me and you have to have three spinal surgeries literally in one week, you’re going to cap out. But he doesn’t care. He’s voting against keeping someone like me alive.”

You can listen to the full audio of the call [here](#).