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Columbus Joins Communities Across US in Support of Affordable Care Act

Klein says eliminating the federal law would have devastating impact on residents

COLUMBUS – Today, Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein announced that the City of Columbus has signed on to a U.S. Supreme Court [amicus brief](#) in defense of the Affordable Care Act. The City, with 44 municipalities from across the country, argued that the Trump administration’s effort to eliminate the federal law jeopardizes the long-term health of residents.

“Repealing the ACA would be devastating to our families and communities and doing so during a global pandemic would exponentially increase the damage,” said City Attorney Klein. “People need quality, affordable health care right now. And ripping that away, when millions of Americans have already lost coverage, is counterproductive and cruel.”

Twenty-seven million workers and their family members have lost job-based health insurance in the past two months according to estimates from the Kaiser Family Foundation. That represents nearly one-fifth of Americans who get employer coverage. In the brief, the coalition argued that invalidating the ACA at this time would create more barriers to quality care and exacerbate the pandemic’s impact.

In the brief, the group also explained that local governments shoulder many of the costs associated with providing services for uninsured residents with unmet health needs. The leaders said that the ACA has allowed communities to better spend taxpayer dollars, provide more effective health services and preserve resources for other critical government functions.

The brief was filed in response to *Texas v. California* and *United States v. House of Representatives v. Texas*, two consolidated cases pending before the U.S. Supreme Court. This represents the third time the high court has heard a lawsuit threatening to upend the federal health care law.

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