



NEWS RELEASE

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President Biden's American Rescue Plan will Help Americans Get Insured and Stay Insured by Providing More Financial Help than Ever Before

Get Covered 2021 Lauds President Biden for his commitment to ensure Americans have access to quality care and coverage, and for providing financial assistance when it's needed most

- *An estimated 25 million Americans stand to benefit from the new subsidies in President Biden's American Rescue Plan, which will provide economic relief and lower health care costs.*
- *The American Rescue Plan will limit the cost of health care coverage to 8.5 percent of total income, regardless of income level. This would result in an immediate increase in subsidies for those under 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, which is equal to annual earnings of up to \$52,000 per year.*
- *For Americans earning over 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, this would be the first time federal help was provided to help cover health care costs.*
- *The American Rescue Plan provides the first significant enhancement of the Affordable Care Act since the law began providing coverage in 2014.*

WASHINGTON DC – President Joe Biden has signed the American Rescue Plan, a \$1.9 trillion stimulus package, which will help more Americans get enrolled in health care coverage, stay enrolled in coverage and provide critical economic relief during a time when it's needed the most. Get Covered 2021, a broad and diverse national coalition of states, bipartisan elected leaders, consumer and patient groups, health care providers and celebrity ambassadors, applauds the President's actions which will enhance the Affordable Care Act, lower health care costs and provide financial help to millions of Americans. Members of the Get Covered 2021 Coalition look forward to supporting the Administration's efforts to ensure a seamless rollout and implementation of the plan's new policies.

Following are reactions from Get Covered 2021 co-chairs and coalition members:

"We applaud President Biden's actions and his commitment to prioritize access to quality care and coverage for all Americans," said Peter V. Lee, Get Covered 2021 Co-Chair and Executive Director of Covered California. "The American Rescue Plan will provide much needed financial help to millions of Americans, lowering premiums and making it easier for them to get insured and stay insured."

"The Biden Administration has proven their commitment to help millions of Americans get covered with affordable comprehensive health insurance, and provide real financial support for those who need it most," said Laura Packard, Get Covered 2021 Co-Chair and Executive Director for Get America Covered. "Now more than ever we need to lean in to help those that have been hit the hardest by the pandemic and recession, and the American Rescue Plan delivers."

"We want all Americans to have access to high-quality care and coverage," said Carrie Banahan, Get Covered 2021 Co-Chair and Deputy Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Expanding these subsidies and offering financial assistance will help more Americans get enrolled in coverage and stay enrolled in coverage."

"The American Rescue Plan Act will help millions of financially-stressed Americans keep their health coverage during this COVID pandemic," said Don Crane, CEO and President of America's Physician Groups. "The additional funds to address childhood poverty will help tackle the vast health inequities that millions of American children face through no fault of their own. APG applauds this bill for its many provisions to help both patients and providers, but we must continue working to expand access to health coverage and to eliminate waste, lower costs, and improve quality of care in our dysfunctional, costly healthcare system."

"We're delighted that the American Rescue Plan directly addresses the biggest hurdle people have in getting access to health care: its cost. By lowering the cost of monthly premiums and extending other important programs, millions of Americans will be able to confidently address their health care needs right when they need to most," said Caitlin Donovan, Senior Director of Public Relations for the National Patient Advocate Foundation. "We're looking forward to working with the Administration and Congress to support patients and caregivers with bold actions like the American Rescue Plan, and eliminate the financial toxicity that mires millions of patients and caregivers nationwide."

"Like so many other marginalized communities, people with complex medical needs and disabilities have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Laura LeBrun Hatcher, Director of Communications for Little Lobbyists. "We are grateful the American Rescue Plan includes the needs of the disability community, particularly the increased funding for Medicaid and Home and Community Based Services, which help people stay in their homes and out of deadly institutions. We look forward to building upon this legislation to continue creating more equitable policies to support the full inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of our nation's recovery."

An estimated 25 million Americans stand to benefit from the new subsidies, which will provide economic relief and lower health care costs. In an effort to enroll more Americans in health care coverage, the Administration declared a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) last month and

invested \$50 million to support federal marketing and outreach to bolster enrollment. As detailed in the newly passed American Rescue Plan, federal subsidies for those under 400 percent – equal to annual earnings of those who make up to \$52,000 per year – of the Federal Poverty Level will be increased. For those earning over 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level in most of the nation, this will be the first time federal help will be provided to help cover high health care costs.

Get Covered 2021 has reached more than 200 million people through a national social media campaign, promoting the message that financial help is available for millions of Americans to make coverage affordable by sharing the website GetCovered2021.org (where consumers can be linked directly to enrollment help) and using the hashtag #GetCovered2021.

Get Covered 2021 coalition members include the American Public Health Association, American Heart Association, American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, America's Physician Groups, American Cancer Society, Mental Health America, National Hispanic Medical Association, the Service Employees International Union, American Federation of Teachers, National Association of Community Health Centers and many more, along with 16 states, the District of Columbia and Get America Covered.

A diverse array of celebrity and athlete ambassadors have also joined on in support, including AJ Andrews, Odell Beckham Jr., Beth Behrs, Tanner Buchanan, Caron Butler, Shilique Calhoun, Charlie Carver, Max Carver, Stephen Curry, Freddy Galvis, Adrian Gonzalez, Mark Hamill, Ken Jeong, George Lopez, Danielle Macdonald, Angel McCoughtry, Alyssa Milano, Bill Pullman, CC Sabathia, Sarah Silverman, George Takei, Bradley Whitford and James Wilks. Ambassadors have provided their support using their unique platforms to educate and encourage people across the country to get covered.

Get Covered 2021 urges Americans in need of health insurance to visit GetCovered2021.org, to learn about the financial options available and be directed to their state marketplace or www.healthcare.gov to enroll in coverage.

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