



## Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio

Dear Health Care Reform Supporter:

I am passing along to you a very important alert sent to us yesterday from Community Catalyst, one of our national partners in the battle for health care reform. Here is what we need you to do, and the details supporting this are below.

**Please contact Senator Sherrod Brown's office today** and ask him to weigh in with Senators Reid, Baucus, Harkin, and Dodd. Thank Senator Brown for his strong support for health care reform to date and ask him to communicate the following to leadership:

- You are pleased that they are working to improve the affordability protections for individuals over 200% FPL.
- However, you are deeply concerned that this improvement is being done at the expense of low-income people, those who can least afford to pay for premiums.
- This scenario is not a viable alternative and should not be considered regardless of the CBO score.

**Senator Brown's Washington Office (202) 224-2315**

Or send him an [e-mail](#)

**Here are the details:**

During recent Hill visits, Community Catalyst staff members learned the Senate bill that was sent to CBO to be scored has several affordability options in it. One of these options increases premiums from 2% to 3% of income for individuals starting at 100% of the Federal Poverty Level in order to decrease premiums for individuals over 200% FPL. This option will reduce premiums for individuals at 300% FPL from 12% to 10%. This new scale begins to reduce premiums for individuals starting at 200% FPL. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities released a [paper](#) about this alternative and an amended chart from the paper is below.

**Required Family Premium Contributions Under Senate Finance and the "3-10" Alternative**

<b>Income for a Family of 3</b>		<b>HELP Bill</b>		<b>Senate Finance Bill</b>		<b>"3-10" Alternative</b>	
<i>% of Poverty Level</i>	<i>Annual Dollar Amount</i>	<i>% of Income</i>	<i>Annual Dollar Amount</i>	<i>% of Income</i>	<i>Annual Dollar Amount</i>	<i>% of Income</i>	<i>Annual Dollar Amount</i>
100%	\$18,310	n/a*	n/a*	2%	\$366	3%	\$549
133%	\$24,352	n/a*	n/a*	3.7%	\$889	4.2%	\$1,023
150%	\$27,465	1%	\$275	4.5%	\$1,236	4.8%	\$1,318
200%	\$36,620	3.3%	\$1,208	7%	\$2,563	6.5%	\$2,380
250%	\$45,775	5.6%	\$2,563	9.5%	\$ 4,349	8.3%	\$3,799
300%	\$54,930	7.9%	\$4,339	12%	\$6,592	10.0%	\$5,493
350%	\$63,085	10.2%	\$6,435	12%	\$7,690	10.0%	\$6,308
400%	\$73,240	12.5%	\$9,155	12%	\$8,789	10.0%	\$7,324

**\*The HELP bill expands Medicaid to 150% FPL, so most people at these income levels would qualify for Medicaid.**

**While we are very supportive of decreasing premiums for people at 200% FPL and above, this should not be done at the expense of low-income people. This "3-10" alternative is not a viable option for improving affordability provisions in the bill. There are many other options for funding these affordability provisions for individuals with higher incomes.**

**Thank you for your continued advocacy,**

**Cathy Levine,**

**Executive Director, UHCAN Ohio  
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