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Rep. Matsui Statement on House Republicans' Vote to Repeal the Health Care Law

WASHINGTON, DC – Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-05), member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and co-chair of the Seniors Task Force, issued the following statement today in response to the Republican Majority's vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act:

"Today, for the 31st time, House Republicans voted to repeal, defund and dismantle the Affordable Care Act, taking away critical protections for millions of Americans, and, like before, I voted 'No.' Repealing the ACA would increase costs to families, small business owners, and seniors across the board. It would allow insurance companies to deny coverage to American's with pre-existing conditions, drop coverage when people get sick, reinstitute lifetime limits on coverage, and charge people more based merely on their gender.

"Access to health care should be a right, not a privilege in this country. The Affordable Care Act provides Sacramento residents, and the American people, the consumer protections for which they have been asking for, for years, and puts America's health before insurance companies' profits.

"It is time to move forward and focus our efforts on job creation."

Over the past two years, Sacramento residents have benefited from the provisions of the Affordable Care Act. As a result of the law:

- 7,400 young adults in Sacramento now have health insurance
- 5,000 seniors in Sacramento received prescription drug discounts worth \$1.9 million, an

average discount of \$390 per senior

- 57,000 seniors in Sacramento received Medicare preventive services without paying any co-pays, coinsurance or deductibles
- 27,000 children and 110,000 adults in Sacramento now have health insurance that covers preventive services without paying any co-pays, coinsurance, or deductibles
- 430 Sacramento small businesses received tax credits to help maintain or expand health care coverage for their employees
- \$57.6 million in public health grants have been given to Sacramento area community health centers, hospitals, doctors, and other healthcare providers to improve the community's health
- 10,000 to 44,000 children with preexisting health conditions can no longer be denied coverage by health insurers.

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