



## **Department of Communications**

401 Broadway • Suite 211 • Gary, Indiana 46402-1236

Phone 219.881.1314 • Fax 219.881.1337

Email [ldburns@ci.gary.in.us](mailto:ldburns@ci.gary.in.us)

Karen Freeman-Wilson  
Mayor

LaLosa Dent Burns  
Director of Communications

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

March 9, 2017

### **MAYOR KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON RESPONDS TO “AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT”**

**Gary, Indiana**-Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson joins other nation’s Mayors in response to the “American Health Care Act” which is proposed to replace the “Affordable Health Care Act” (ACA) of the former Obama Administration.

The “American Health Care Act” recently brought before the U.S. House of Representatives is a major concern of the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) of which Freeman-Wilson is a member of the USCM Advisory Board and chair of two public safety committees. Over 130 Mayors have signed a **bipartisan** letter to Congress with an analysis of the replacement bill based on key priorities collectively identified by the Mayors’ organization.

Mayor Freeman-Wilson expressed apprehensiveness about the ability of the replacement bill to provide every American with affordable health care. Freeman-Wilson says, "As proposed the "American Health Care Act" would reduce coverage for many of the most neediest citizens; it would also remove Medicaid expansion, also a very limiting provision. In fact, this replacement is not very American at all. Every American should have the right to affordable health care.

Many of the nation’s Mayors have expressed how significantly the proposed health bill will impact their cities and its residents. Among many challenges that would exist on the local level, The “American Health Care Act” proposes to cut state funding that would eliminate health care services for many families, seniors and those with disabilities. The USCM is strongly urging that the key provisions of the ACA remain a part of the new health care law.

The “Affordable Health Care Act” required health care coverage for all Americans. The USCM Health and Human Services Committee will continue to analyze and to monitor the provisions of the “American Health Care Act”.