



June 26, 2017

Late last week, the Senate released their healthcare bill, the Better Care Reconciliation Act, or BCRA (bic-RA). This bill is as bad or worse than the House healthcare bill and, like that bill, harms the important healthcare programs and protections upon which people with disabilities rely. Despite only introducing this legislation a few days ago, the Senate plans to rush a vote on this bill on Thursday. As a result, we are urging everyone to participate in a People's Filibuster Week of Action:

- 1) **If you have a Republican Senator or two**, each day until the vote, call your senator/s and ask him/her/them to oppose the bill. We will provide a script each morning, detailing issues with a different part of the bill. We also ask that you report back on Twitter (@Bazelon Center) or via email ([communications@bazelon.org](mailto:communications@bazelon.org)) with what your senator's office said about the Senator's current position on the BCRA.
- 2) **Whether or not you have any Republican Senators**, think about all of your family and friends who live in states with Republican Senators. Call or email anyone you know in those states, and ask them to call their Senators. Share our fact sheets and our scripts. Each day, we'll send a reminder and a new script for you to use to when contacting Friends and Family.
- 3) **In addition to these steps, there is more that you can do:**
  - You can write a letter to your local newspaper, asking your Senators to publicly oppose the bill. There are model letters to the editor available here: <http://www.bazelon.org/our-work/advocacy/>.
  - You can visit your Senator's office in person, by yourself or with some friends. Ask to meet with the healthcare staff or just drop off a letter including your address and your request that the Senator oppose the BCRA. A model letter is available here: [http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Letter-to-Senator-opposing-BCRA\\_Model\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Letter-to-Senator-opposing-BCRA_Model_FINAL.pdf).
  - You can tweet at your senator or write on his/her Facebook page. There are sample tweets and posts available here: [http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Social-Media\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Social-Media_Final.pdf).

Today's Script!

**For Calling Senators:**

Call the main Capitol line at: (202) 224-3121. You'll be directed to an operator at the Capitol switchboard. This switchboard can direct you to both Senators as well as Representatives. You may be asked to leave a voice mail; you can use the same script to leave a message.

Hello, my name is [NAME].

I'm a resident of [TOWN, STATE] and my zipcode is [ZIPCODE].

As a constituent and a [person with a disability/parent or family member of a person with a disability/supporter of people with disabilities], I am asking Senator [SENATOR'S NAME] to vote against the Senate Healthcare bill. The bill limits Medicaid payments for each person and these



limits will result in massive cuts to Medicaid. These cuts will place services for [me/my family member/my friends] at serious risk. Limits on Medicaid would be devastating to the health, independence, and lives of individuals with disabilities and their families, especially in [STATE]. Please pass my concerns along to Senator [SENATOR'S NAME]. Thank you for taking my call!

**For Contacting Friends and Family:**

If you don't have contact information for friends and family in the relevant states, you can use Facebook to find many of them here:

Alaska: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20alaska>

Arizona: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20arizona>

Colorado: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20colorado>

Louisiana: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20louisiana>

Maine: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20maine>

Nevada: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20nevada>

Ohio: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20ohio>

Pennsylvania: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20pennsylvania>

West Virginia: <https://www.facebook.com/search/people/?q=friends%20in%20west%20virginia>

Here is a sample message that you can send to friends or family:

Hi [Family Member/Friend],

I wanted to be sure you saw this [fact sheet/article]. I am really worried that this healthcare bill is going to pass and harm [your friend's state/your state/your family member/your friend]. Have you called Senator [Senator's name] about this? I have been calling my senators and have some scripts that I've been using that I'd be happy to share.

[Your Name]