



## 25 Patient and Consumer Groups Celebrate the ACA on its 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Washington, D.C., March 23, 2020 –25 patient and consumer groups representing millions of people nationwide with pre-existing health conditions issued the following statement in celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Affordable Care Act (ACA):

“Now it is more important than ever to acknowledge and celebrate the significant coverage gains and protections for patients as a result of the Affordable Care Act. Today, the nation faces significant challenges as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic, but as a result of the ACA, more than 20 million additional Americans have access to high-quality, affordable health insurance. In the midst of this crisis, it is critical that we acknowledge the impact of the ACA on patients.

“To date, the ACA has had many positive effects on the patients and communities including:

- Protections for 135 million Americans with pre-existing conditions
- Access to a core set of essential benefits including maternity care, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, emergency care and preventive services,
- Allowing children to stay on their parents insurance until age 26,
- Medicaid expansion for low-income adults,
- Elimination of arbitrary annual and lifetime coverage caps
- And many more.

“As we take a moment to acknowledge this progress, we are also mindful that these gains are endangered in the courts. Together, our organizations remain committed to working with Congress to protect and improve this landmark law.”

ALS Association  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action  
Network  
American Diabetes Association  
American Heart Association  
American Kidney Fund  
American Lung Association  
Arthritis Foundation  
Cancer Support Community  
Chronic Disease Coalition  
COPD Foundation  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Hemophilia Federation of America  
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

March of Dimes  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Health Council  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Organization for Rare Disorders  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National Psoriasis Foundation  
The AIDS Institute  
United Way Worldwide  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for  
Women with Heart Disease

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