



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NHC Statement on the Affordable Care Act
Supreme Court Decision**

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June 17, 2021

The more than 160 million Americans with chronic diseases and disabilities are joyful and relieved that the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

This decision ensures continued access to care and increased affordability for those who need the health care system the most. In addition, the more than 20 million Americans who gained insurance through the ACA will not have to worry about losing their coverage. All Americans can feel secure that benefits such as coverage for emergency visits, prescription drugs, and wellness visits will still be available to them thanks to the ACA.

Going forward the National Health Council is urging the U.S. Congress, Department of Health and Human Services, and state regulators to make permanent the subsidies in the American Recovery Act, remove barriers to access, address the high cost of care, and work to offer insurance coverage for those stuck without it in states that have not expanded Medicaid. The patient community is eager to tackle these issues and work with policy makers to ensure all people have access to affordable, sustainable, equitable, high-value health care.

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Created by and for patient organizations 100 years ago, the National Health Council (NHC) brings diverse organizations together to forge consensus and drive patient-centered health policy. We promote increased access to affordable, high-value, sustainable health care. Made up of more than 140 national health-related organizations and businesses, the NHC's core membership includes the nation's leading patient organizations. Other members include health-related associations and nonprofit organizations including the provider, research, and family caregiver communities; and businesses representing biopharmaceutical, device, diagnostic, generic drug, and payer organizations. Learn more at:

<http://www.nationalhealthcouncil.org>.

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