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Gina Walsh Missouri Senate DISTRICT 13

Attorney General Hawley,

July 23, 2018

To protect the health, safety and wellbeing of the 2.5 million Missourians with preexisting health conditions, we call on you to withdraw from Texas v. United States, No. 4: I 8-cv-00167-O (N.D. Tex.).

As you are aware, as part of this litigation, the Trump administration has now told a federal court that it is opting to not defend existing law and regulations, including protections for preexisting conditions.

This effort by the Trump Administration to eliminate the insurance coverage requirement of preexisting conditions does not represent Missouri values. Accordingly, our state should not be a party to this cruel attempt to undermine America's health care system.

Approximately 133 million nonelderly Americans have preexisting conditions. Your lawsuit, combined with this latest move from the Trump Administration, would allow these Americans to be charged more or denied coverage altogether based on prior health problems.

Make no mistake, if your lawsuit prevails, coverage for millions of Americans and protections for preexisting conditions would disappear overnight. By being a party to this lawsuit, you are squarely on the side of removing protections for Americans – including 2.5 million Missourians - with preexisting conditions.

That is why, on behalf of all Missourians, we call on you to withdraw your support for this lawsuit and instead work to ensure that millions of families across the country can continue to have access to quality, affordable care.

Sincerely,

Senate Minority Floor Leader Gina Walsh

Shalonn K. Cull

State Senator Shalonn "Kiki" Curls

State Senator-Elect Lauren Arthur

State Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal

State Senator Jamilah Nasheed

State Senator Jason Holsman

State Senator Jacob Hummel

State Senator John Rizzo

State Senator Jill Schupp

State Senator Scott Sifton

