



“CHOICES”

VISUALS	AUDIO	FACTS
<p><b>CG:</b> Congressman Bruce Poliquin</p>	<p>In Washington, you can serve Maine...</p> <p>...or big special interests.</p> <p>What did Bruce Poliquin choose?</p>	
<p><b>CG:</b> Bruce Poliquin:  <b>CG:</b> voted to eliminate protections  <i>Cite: HR 1628, Vote #256, 5/4/17; New York Times, 5/4/17</i>  <i>Politifact, 5/24/17</i></p>	<p>Over half of Mainers have a pre-existing condition.</p> <p>Poliquin sided with insurance companies to gut their protections.</p>	<p><b>Over Half Of Non-Elderly Maine Residents (548,300) Have Pre-Existing Conditions.</b> In April of 2017, the Center for American Progress published a report breaking down the numbers of Americans with pre-existing conditions by congressional district and state. According to the data accompanying the report: 548,300 nonelderly residents or 53% of the nonelderly population of the State of Maine have pre-existing conditions. [<a href="#">Center For American Progress, 4/5/2017</a>]</p> <p><b>Bruce Poliquin Voted For The American Health Care Act That Which Would Result In 23 Million Fewer Americans With Health Insurance By 2026.</b> In May 2017, Bruce Poliquin voted for the American Health Care Act which would have significantly repealed portions of the Affordable Care Act by cutting Medicaid, cutting taxes on the rich, removing safeguard for pre-existing conditions and defunding Planned Parenthood. The overall legislation would have in part, also according to Congressional Quarterly, “ma[d]e extensive changes to the 2010 health care overhaul law, by effectively repealing the individual and employer mandates as well as most of the taxes that finance the current system. It would [have], in 2020, convert[ed] Medicaid into a capped entitlement that would provide[d] fixed federal payments to states and end[ed] additional federal funding for the 2010 law’s</p>

joint federal-state Medicaid expansion. It would prohibit federal funding to any entity, such as Planned Parenthood, that performs abortions and receives more than \$350 million a year in Medicaid funds. [...] It would [have] allow[ed] states to receive waivers to exempt insurers from having to provide certain minimum benefits.” The vote was on passage. The House passed the bill by a vote of 217 to 213. [House Vote 256, [5/4/17](#); Congressional Quarterly, [5/4/17](#); Kaiser Family Foundation, [5/17](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 1628](#)]

**PolitiFact Florida: Conservative Claims That AHCA Protects Pre-Existing Conditions Rated Mostly False.** In May of 2017, PolitiFact Florida reported: “An ad by the American Action Network says that under the American Health Care Act ‘people with pre-existing conditions are protected.’ The only kernel of truth here is that the amendment has language that states insurers can’t limit access to coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions. However, the ad omits that the House GOP health plan would weaken protections for these patients. The legislation would allow states to give insurers the power to charge people significantly more if they had a pre-existing condition. While Republicans point to the fact that those patients could get help through high-risk pools, experts question their effectiveness. Current law does not allow states to charge people with pre-existing conditions significantly more. We rate this claim Mostly False.” [[PolitiFact Florida/Tampa Bay Tribune, 5/24/2017](#)]

**House Health Care Bill Would Result In Premiums 15 To 20 Percent Higher In 2018 And 2019.** According to the New York Times “The House bill would eliminate tax penalties for people who go without health insurance. It would roll back state-by-state expansions of Medicaid, which covered millions of low-income Americans. And in place of government-subsidized insurance policies offered exclusively on the Affordable Care Act’s marketplaces, the bill would offer tax credits of \$2,000 to \$4,000 a year, depending on age. A family could receive up to \$14,000 a year in credits. The credits would be reduced for individuals making over \$75,000 a year and



		<p>families making over \$150,000. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said the first version of the bill would trim the federal budget deficit considerably but would also leave 24 million more Americans without health insurance after a decade. Average insurance premiums would be 15 percent to 20 percent higher in 2018 and 2019, but after that, they would be lower than projected under current law.” [<a href="#">New York Times, 5/4/2017</a>]</p>
<p><b>CG:</b> Bruce Poliquin:  <b>CG:</b> supported \$700 billion in Medicare cuts  <i>Cite: Bangor Daily News, 7/25/14; New York Times, Editorial, 4/01/14</i></p>	<p>Over 300,000 Mainers rely on Medicare.</p> <p>Poliquin supported a plan with \$700 billion in cuts.</p>	<p><b>Kaiser Family Foundation: 306,420 Medicare Beneficiaries In Maine.</b> According to data from the Kaiser Family Foundation, there were 306,420 Medicare beneficiaries in Maine in 2015 (most recent available data). [<a href="#">Kaiser Family Foundation State Health Facts: Total Number of Medicare Beneficiaries</a>]</p> <p><b>2014: Bruce Poliquin Told The Bangor Daily News That He Supported The Paul Ryan Budget Plan.</b> In July of 2014, the Bangor Daily News Editorial Board wrote: “Ryan’s plan balances the federal budget within a decade through a combination of cuts to entitlement programs, cuts to programs that help the poor and middle class, and an avoidance of many hard choices that would seemingly be implicit in a budget-cutting plan. Cain, a Democratic state senator from Orono, has expressed her outright opposition. Poliquin, the Republican former state treasurer, says he supports the Ryan plan. He told the BDN editorial board in May that he would like to see the plan balance the federal budget more quickly. In using the Ryan approach to balance the federal budget, Poliquin and other supporters of the plan would be counting on an approach that stands to wreak havoc with the Maine state budget, which Poliquin takes some credit for reforming during his time as state treasurer.” [<a href="#">Bangor Daily News Editorial, 7/25/2014</a>]</p> <p><b>Paul Ryan’s FY 2015 Budget Plan Would Cut \$700 Billion From Medicare.</b> The New York Times editorial board criticized the Fiscal Year 2015 Paul Ryan budget plan, pointing out: “Mr. Ryan would make exactly the same \$700 billion in cuts to Medicare that Republicans have ridiculed Democrats for making to pay for health care reform. But, of course, he would</p>

		<p>repeal the health law and has no particular concern about the 13 million people who would no longer be covered under the law’s Medicaid expansion. In fact, he would turn Medicaid and food stamps into block grants, knowing full well that that would permit Republican states to trim benefits to the bone.” [<a href="#">New York Times Editorial, 4/1/2014</a>]</p>
<p><b>CG:</b> Bruce Poliquin <b>CG:</b> “Age Tax” - AARP <b>CG:</b> charge older Mainers up to 5x more than younger consumers <i>Cite: HR 1628, Vote #256, 5/4/17; Congressional Budget Office, 5/24/17; AARP Maine, 6/14/17</i></p>	<p>And on what the AARP calls an “Age Tax” ... Poliquin voted to charge older Mainers five times more.</p>	<p><b>Bruce Poliquin Voted For The American Health Care Act That Which Would Result In 23 Million Fewer Americans With Health Insurance By 2026.</b> In May 2017, Bruce Poliquin voted for the American Health Care Act which would have significantly repealed portions of the Affordable Care Act by cutting Medicaid, cutting taxes on the rich, removing safeguard for pre-existing conditions and defunding Planned Parenthood. The overall legislation would have in part, also according to Congressional Quarterly, “ma[d]e extensive changes to the 2010 health care overhaul law, by effectively repealing the individual and employer mandates as well as most of the taxes that finance the current system. It would [have], in 2020, convert[ed] Medicaid into a capped entitlement that would provide[d] fixed federal payments to states and end[ed] additional federal funding for the 2010 law’s joint federal-state Medicaid expansion. It would prohibit federal funding to any entity, such as Planned Parenthood, that performs abortions and receives more than \$350 million a year in Medicaid funds. [...] It would [have] allow[ed] states to receive waivers to exempt insurers from having to provide certain minimum benefits.” The vote was on passage. The House passed the bill by a vote of 217 to 213. [House Vote 256, <a href="#">5/4/17</a>; Congressional Quarterly, <a href="#">5/4/17</a>; Kaiser Family Foundation, <a href="#">5/17</a>; Congressional Actions, <a href="#">H.R. 1628</a>]</p> <p><b>Legislation Would Allow Insurance Companies Charge Premiums Of Five To One, Instead Of Three To One, For Older To Younger Customers.</b> According to the CBO, “Relaxing the current-law</p>



		<p>requirement that prevents insurers from charging older people premiums that are more than three times larger than the premiums charged younger people in the nongroup and small-group markets. Unless a state sets a different limit, H.R. 1628 would allow insurers to charge older people five times more than younger ones beginning in 2018.” [CBO, <a href="#">5/24/17</a>]</p> <p><b>AARP Maine: “The AHCA Unfairly Penalizes Older Americans Ages 50-64 With An ‘Age Tax’”</b> In June of 2017, AARP Maine reported: “The AHCA unfairly penalizes older Americans ages 50-64 with an ‘age tax.’ The bill discriminates against 6.1 million Americans in the individual health insurance market by allowing insurance companies to charge older people five times (or more) what others pay for the same coverage. This would impact over 26,000 Mainers ages 50-64. For many, these premium increases would be unaffordable. In Maine for example, a 55-year old earning \$25,000 annually could see a premium increase of as much as \$7,602. A 64-year old Mainer earning the same amount could see a premium cost increase of as much as \$12,701.” [<a href="#">AARP Maine, 6/14/17</a>]</p>
<p>Maine/Maine faces disappear leaving Poliquin firmly in Washington  <b>CG:</b> Bruce Poliquin  <b>CG:</b> Insurance Companies Come Before Maine</p>	<p>Bruce Poliquin sides with the insurance companies...   ...NOT Maine.</p>	
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