ACEP 911 Network Legislative Update:
Congressional Actions Tomorrow on the American Health Care Act (AHCA) and Efforts to Repeal and Replace the ACA

ACEP is closely monitoring congressional efforts to repeal/replace/repair the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and will be reporting on all activities to keep you informed. First and foremost, we continue to share our Emergency Medicine Health Care Reform Principles with members of the House and Senate, most recently during ACEP’s 2017 Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC, attended by nearly 600 ACEP members from across the country.

House Budget Committee Action
Tomorrow, on March 16, the House Budget Committee will mark up the American Health Care Act (ACHA), legislation to partially repeal and replace the ACA through the FY17 budget reconciliation process. The repeal and replace proposal, was written and recently approved by the Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce Committees. The rules of budget reconciliation will prevent any amendments but the Budget Committee could have some influence over the measure through nonbinding motions aimed at the House Rules Committee. For more information about the legislation and FY17 Budget Committee actions, please click here.

House Democrats’ Response
At the same time, Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and House Democrats are holding an unofficial hearing on the impacts of the ACA repeal bill tomorrow, 3/16 from 9:30am – 12:00pm. Witnesses include Doug Elmendorf, Dean, Harvard Kennedy School, Former Director of the Congressional Budget Office; Andy Slavitt, Former Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Mike Kreidler, Washington State Insurance Commissioner; and patient and provider representatives.

You can tune in to the hearing live at www.facebook.com/whiphoyer between 9:30 a.m. and 12 Noon tomorrow. The hearing will also be streamed at ResistRepeal.org, where the public can weigh in with their thoughts on the bill.

As the legislative process continues, ACEP will be issuing and updating our talking points to reflect the latest modifications to the bill and its provisions. We want to continue working with lawmakers in both parties and both chambers to ensure that patient protections are maintained and meaningful coverage is established for all Americans. Our most recent talking points can be found here.