

Tyler Kistner puts insurance and drug company profits ahead of us. He'd repeal the Affordable Care Act – increasing the cost of prescription drugs on older Americans, take health care coverage away from 266,000 Minnesotans, and allowing insurance companies to deny coverage to people with pre-existing conditions -- like asthma, diabetes and cancer. And he supports giving insurance and drug companies billions in special tax breaks -- as they make record profits.

Kistner Supported Repealing The Affordable Care Act. At a 2nd Congressional Republican Candidate Forum, the question asked was “Would you repeal Obamacare entirely?” Kistner said “I would repeal, then reform, because our healthcare system is broken. You have farmers out there who are going and spending their own money to put into a mutual fund with others to help fund their health insurance. That tells you they can’t even work through the system they have in place, which means it’s broken, and that needs to be fixed. That needs to be fixed now, because that’s an issue every mayor gets faced with, is the rising costs of healthcare.” [Congressional Republican Candidate Forum, 00:35:35, [2/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Eliminating The ACA Would Raise Prescription Drug Costs For Millions Of Americans. “Almost 600 drug companies participate in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program. This program provides drug rebates in exchange for state Medicaid coverage of most of the manufacturer’s medications. Eliminating the ACA would take away increases to this rebate, raising prescription drug costs for millions.” [National Gaucher Foundation, [8/20/19](#)]

People On Medicare Saved An Average Of \$2,272 Per Year On Prescription Drugs Since The Passage Of The ACA. “Since passage of the ACA, nearly 12 million people with Medicare have saved over \$26.8 billion on prescription drugs, an average of \$2,272 per beneficiary. The ACA reduces prescription drug prices for seniors and closes the coverage gap, known as the “donut hole.” Prior to passage of the ACA, Medicare beneficiaries paid 100 percent of the cost of their drugs when in the coverage gap; under the ACA, beginning in 2011, beneficiaries paid a reduced cost for brand name and generic drugs. In 2020, for costs in the coverage gap phase, beneficiaries pay 25 percent for both brand-name and generic drugs, with plans paying the remaining 75 percent of generic drug costs — which means that, effective in 2020, the Part D coverage gap was fully phased out.” [National Committee to Preserve Social Security & Medicare, [6/29/20](#)]

266,000 Minnesotans Would Lose Health Care Coverage If The Affordable Care Act Was Repealed. According to the Center for American Progress, 266,000 Minnesotans would lose health care coverage if the Affordable Care Act was repealed. In the 2nd Congressional District, 35,000 would lose coverage. [Center for American Progress, [7/9/19](#)]

Repealing The ACA Would Cause 307,800 Minnesotans From The 2nd Congressional District To Lose Protections For Preexisting Conditions. According to Center for America Progress, as of October 2019, repealing the Affordable Care Act would cause 307,800 Minnesotans from the 2nd Congressional district to lose health care insurance because of a pre-existing condition. [Center for America Progress, [10/2/19](#)]

The Affordable Care Act Prevented Insurers From Denying Coverage Or Charging More If An Individual Had A Pre-existing Condition. “In the old days, insurance companies had ways to avoid selling policies to people who were likely to cost more than insurers wanted to spend. They might deny them coverage outright, or exclude coverage for a known condition, or charge so much that insurance became unaffordable. The Affordable Care Act boxes out the old insurance practices with a package of legal moves. First, it says point-blank that carriers ‘may not impose any preexisting condition exclusion.’ It backs that up with another section that says they ‘may not establish rules for eligibility’ based on health status, medical condition, claims experience or medical history.” [Politifact, [10/17/18](#)]

Kistner Supported The 2017 Republican Tax Bill. “Kistner opposes a bigger government role in health care and supports policies allowing private coverage across state lines, foreign pharmaceutical competition and more health care price transparency to push down costs. He also supports the 2017 tax cuts.” [SW News Media, [1/9/19](#)]

Axios: “Large Health Insurance Companies Would Be Among The Biggest Winners Under Republicans’ Tax Overhaul Bill.” “Large health insurance companies would be among the biggest winners under Republicans' tax overhaul bill. Nearly all of their business is based in the U.S. and they consequently pay close to the full 35% corporate tax rate. The bottom line: Cutting the corporate tax rate to 20% would instantly boost insurers' profits.” [Axios, [12/11/17](#)]

Politico: Repatriation Provision In The Tax Bill Was A “Major Victory For Pharma Manufacturers.” “The bill, H.R. 1 (115), lowers the corporate tax rate and would offer a one-time reduction on profits U.S.-based multinational companies earn and keep abroad. The repatriation provision is seen as a major victory for pharma manufacturers who store boatloads of cash in countries where tax rates are lower.” [Politico, [12/4/17](#)]

Becker’s Hospital Review HEADLINE: “14 Pharma Companies Post Q3 Profits Over \$1B.” [Becker’s Hospital Review, [11/12/18](#)]

Newsweek HEADLINE: “Big Pharma Companies Earn More Profits Than Most Other Industries, Study Suggests.” [Newsweek, [3/4/20](#)]

In The Years Between 2000 And 2018, 35 Big Drug Companies Received A Combined Revenue Of \$11.5 Trillion, With A Gross Profit Of \$8.6 Trillion. “Big pharmaceutical companies appear to be more profitable than large companies in most other industries, according to a new study. Researchers writing in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) investigated the financial balances of pharma companies dealing in the business of developing, manufacturing, marketing and selling drugs. Their calculations found that in the years between 2000 and 2018, 35 big drug companies received a combined revenue of \$11.5 trillion, with a gross profit of \$8.6 trillion.” [Newsweek, [3/4/20](#)]