



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

July 26, 2017

Throughout the debate on the effort to “repeal or repeal and replace” the Affordable Care Act, Lutherans have joined me in calling on their members of Congress to improve access to health care.

"We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America have an enduring commitment to work for and support health care for all people as a shared endeavor. Our commitment comes in grateful response to God's saving love in Jesus Christ that frees us to love and seek the well-being of our neighbor" (ELCA social statement "Caring for Health: Our Shared Endeavor," 2003).

The Senate is now debating health care reform. In the strongest possible terms, I urge senators to oppose any effort to cut funding to Medicaid that eliminates essential health care for seniors, veterans, children and low-income working families.

I ask all Lutherans to pray for our leaders and to be advocates with me. Our collective voices make a difference, and we should raise them to call on our senators to stand with the most vulnerable members of our communities. It is time for Congress to work together to find solutions that ensure health care for all in our nation of God's great abundance.

God's peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop