



AMERICAN BENEFITS  
COUNCIL

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# NEWS RELEASE

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## Council statement on House GOP health reform plan

The U.S. House of Representatives Republican Health Care Task Force report demonstrates the diversity of opinion about the future of our health care system. The report contains provisions that promote some of the best features of the employer-sponsored benefits system that covers more than 175 million Americans. This includes promotion of employer-sponsored wellness programs, health savings accounts and the repeal of the so-called "Cadillac tax" on high cost plans, which was enacted as part of the Affordable Care Act. At the same time, we are concerned that the report advocates capping the excludability of employer-sponsored health coverage from taxation – a decades-old pillar of tax policy – which could unintentionally erode the employer-based system.

The continued success of employer-based coverage depends on retaining tax policy that enables and encourages employers to sponsor coverage. It also depends upon retaining a federal framework by which employers can provide uniform benefits to workers and their families wherever they live or work. The American Benefits Council's report [Magnifying A 2020 Vision: A Closer Look at Selected Proposals to Strengthen Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits](#) provides a road map for advancing the goals of the employer-sponsored benefit system to ensure Americans' health and financial well-being. We look forward to continuing to work with policymakers to advocate for policies consistent with these vital principles.

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*The American Benefits Council is the national trade association for companies concerned about federal legislation and regulations affecting all aspects of the employee benefits system. The Council's members represent the entire spectrum of the private employee benefits community and either sponsor directly or administer retirement and health plans covering more than 100 million Americans.*