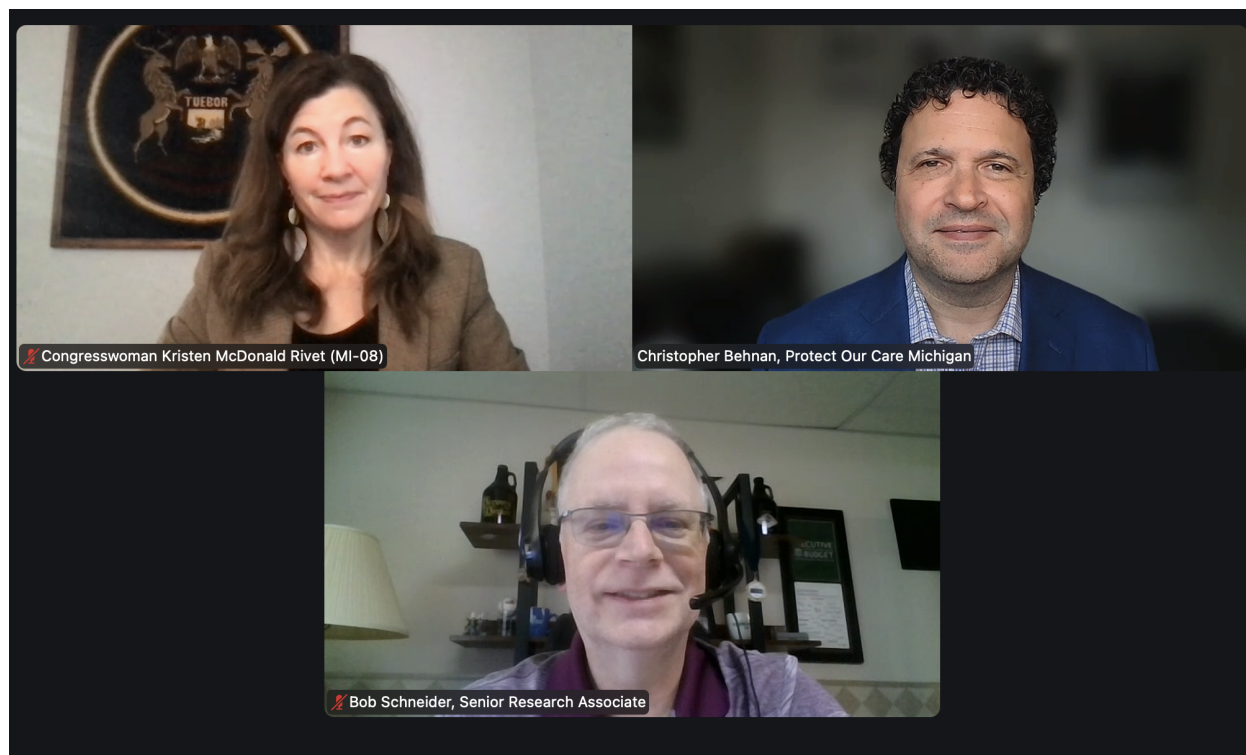


Congresswoman McDonald Rivet, Health Care Advocates Call on Congress to Protect Health Care Tax Credits

Trump, Republicans' Attacks on Health Care Will Make Seeing a Doctor Much More Expensive for Michigan Families



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LANSING, Mich. – Congresswoman **Kristen McDonald Rivet** and **Robert Schneider**, **Citizens Research Council** senior research associate, joined **Protect Our Care Michigan** today in urging Congress to extend tax credits that help hundreds of thousands of Michiganders pay for their health insurance. The Enhanced Premium Tax Credit (EPTC), which saves hundreds – even thousands – of dollars a year for Michiganders who purchase their health care through the Affordable Care Marketplace, is scheduled to expire at the end of this year.

“Costs are already way too high, and tariffs are only making things worse. Families and seniors in my district can’t afford an extra \$730 for their insurance premiums,” said **Congresswoman Kristen McDonald Rivet**, who represents the 8th Congressional District covering Genesee, Saginaw, Bay and Midland counties. “We need to repeal the cuts to the ACA tax credits and protect the health care and pocketbooks for my constituents before it’s too late.”

“The impact of people not buying private insurance through the Marketplace will likely have cascading effects across the state, much in the same way that the Medicaid cuts are expected to,” said **Robert Schneider**, Citizens Research Council senior research associate. “More uninsured people means health care costs will go up for everyone in the form of higher health insurance premiums, while hospitals will see more uncompensated care, leading to reduced services and even closure. [Combined with cuts to Medicaid](#), health care in our state faces a downward spiral that will put people’s health, safety and well-being at risk.”

Congress passed a federal budget this summer that did not renew the EPTC. That budget also slashed \$1 trillion from Medicaid to pay for tax breaks for billionaires. The cuts are expected to take health care away from

more than 453,000 Michiganders who get their health care through Medicaid. The cuts also threaten to shut down five Michigan hospitals and 10 nursing homes, which in turn jeopardize nearly 30,000 jobs.

The EPTC saves thousands of dollars from the cost of health care premiums for more than [half-a-million](#) middle-class Michiganders who qualify for these credits – on average, a [family of four](#) with a household income of around \$124,000 a year. The EPTC is saving Michiganders an [average of \\$449 a month](#), or more than \$5,300 each year.

Citizens Research Council of Michigan released a report showing that health care [premiums will go up](#) by around 70% without the EPTC renewal. Because purchasing health care will be more expensive and burdensome, 8 million fewer Americans will have health care over the next decade nationwide, including about 200,000 people in Michigan. McDonald Rivet said that in her district, health insurance premiums are expected to increase by about \$730.

You can watch the full event [here](#) and learn more about the Trump-GOP Health Care Disaster [here](#).

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