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1ST DISTRICT, ARIZONA

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May 20, 2016

The Honorable Sylvia M. Burwell  
Secretary  
Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Burwell,

As the U.S. Representative for Arizona's First Congressional District, I am writing in regards to potential changes in health insurance options for my constituents in Arizona. As you know, United Healthcare has announced its decision to exit the Affordable Care Act marketplace in Arizona next year. I am deeply concerned about the implications this could have on health insurance options for my constituents.

I represent a sprawling, mostly rural district in Arizona. In several counties, United Healthcare is one of only two health insurance carriers selling marketplace plans. The Affordable Care Act has significantly dropped the uninsured rate in Arizona, and I want to ensure that affordable, quality insurance plans remain available to my constituents. I'm concerned that fewer insurance carriers could mean limited plan options and that a lack of competition could mean higher premiums.

I appreciate and share your commitment to ensuring that affordable, quality health insurance is available to every American. With this in mind, what can we do to incentivize insurers to continue participation in the marketplace? How can we ensure that the people in these rural counties have sufficient choices in health care plans? I would greatly appreciate your thoughts on this matter. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Ann Kirkpatrick  
U.S. Representative, Arizona District One