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April 24, 2025

Bethany Lilly Executive Director, Public Policy The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society 10 G Street NE, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20002

Dear Ms. Lilly:

Thank you again for testifying before the House Committee on Education and Workforce Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions at a hearing titled "A Healthy Workforce: Expanding Access and Affordability in Employer-Sponsored Health Care." Enclosed are additional questions following the hearing. Please provide a written response no later than May 15, 2025, for inclusion in the hearing record. The response should be sent to Katerina Kerska of the Committee staff who can be contacted at (202) 226-9435 or Katerina.Kerska@mail.house.gov.

We appreciate your contribution to the work of the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Rick W. Allen

Chairman

Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions

Questions for the Record from REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

Committee on Education and the Workforce HELP Subcommittee hearing titled: "A Healthy Workforce: Expanding Access and Affordability in Employer-Sponsored Health Care"

> Wednesday, April 2, 2025 10:15 A.M.

Representative Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA) Question(s) for Bethany Lilly, Executive Director, Public Policy, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

- 1. In February, House Republicans voted to approve a budget resolution that aims to cut over \$800 billion from Medicaid in order to give \$4.5 trillion in tax breaks to large corporations and billionaires. Not only will the Republican's draconian budget plan explode the federal deficit, but it is also threatening the health coverage of over 154,000 people in Virginia's Third Congressional District, including nearly 40,000 children in my district. Take for example, the story of one of my constituents from Norfolk, Virginia, named Angel Pye. Medicaid enabled Angel's son, who had Sickle Cell Disease, to afford the health care he needed to live for 10 years. He was in and out of the hospital with blood transfusions, which Medicaid covered. Medicaid also provided some funding when Angel left her job to work as a home care provider for her son. Sadly, Angel's son passed away a month ago. Angel is now sharing her story to highlight the importance of protecting Medicaid.
 - a. What impact would the cuts proposed in the House Republican budget resolution have on people who rely on Medicaid?
- 2. Medicaid plays an outsized role when it comes to long-term care. Medicaid accounts for 61 percent of all long-term care spending in this country. This includes things like nursing home care, but it also includes home and community-based services that provide support to disabled individuals, including older individuals, to continue to live and work in their communities.
 - a. If not for Medicaid, who would pick up the bill for long-term care in this country?
- 3. For 15 years, the Republican Party has waged a war on the *Affordable Care Act* and the landmark consumer protections it enshrined into law for millions of working people in this country. These consumer protections include protecting over 130 million Americans with pre-existing conditions, allowing young people to stay on their parents' insurance until age 26, prohibiting charging women higher premiums than men for the same coverage, and much more. In January 2025, <u>64 percent</u> of the public had a favorable opinion of the ACA. Despite its sky-high approval and historic progress in decreasing

the uninsured rate, Republicans continue to push for the repeal of the ACA and expansion of "junk" health insurance plans that evade vital consumer protections.

- a. Ms. Lilly, can you speak to the deficiencies of these substandard health plans—such as association health plans and short-term, limited duration insurance—for Americans? What benefits do these plans cover (or not cover)?
- 4. In March, the Trump Administration proposed a new regulation governing the ACA Marketplaces that would make it harder for people to get health coverage. Among many changes, the regulation would reduce the Open Enrollment period, end a monthly special enrollment period for Americans and allow insurance companies to offer health plans that cover less medical care. The Administration's own estimate is that 750,000 to two million Americans would lose their ACA health insurance in 2026 as a result of these changes.
 - a. Ms. Lilly, how does the Trump Administration's proposal hurt Americans' ability to get quality health coverage?
- 5. The Trump Administration and DOGE have been carrying out mass firings of federal employees, including those at federal health care agencies, and have made cuts to federal funding and research grants.
 - a. How do you expect these cuts will impact Americans' health?