

**Statement of  
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Before

**Committee on Ways and Means  
Subcommittee on Oversight  
United States House of Representatives**

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Chairman Roskam, Ranking Member Lewis, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today.

I am Michael Deich and I have had the privilege of working for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) twice over the last 20 years. In my first position, from 1996 to 2001, I served as the Associate Director for General Government and Finance. Since returning to OMB last year, I have served as the Senior Advisor to the Director. I have also been delegated the duties of the Deputy Director. In this capacity, I advise the Director on development of the President's Budget and on appropriations activity. Every day, I am reminded of the excellent work performed by OMB staff and I am honored to be a part of this agency and proud of the mission it performs.

The Office of Management and Budget assists the President in developing and executing his policies and programs and in meeting certain statutory requirements, including preparation of the President's Budget. A core part of OMB's mission includes working with every component of the Executive Branch to develop the President's Budget proposals, submitting the President's

Budget to Congress and working towards its enactment, and overseeing the Executive Branch's implementation of the enacted appropriations. OMB ensures agencies develop, express, and implement policies and practices in accordance with the President's priorities and statutory direction and is committed to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of government programs. In this role, OMB works with other Executive Branch agencies to ensure the successful and ongoing implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The ACA has expanded access to care for millions of Americans who would otherwise be uninsured. It has improved the quality of care for people no matter how they get their insurance and it has slowed the growth in healthcare costs nationwide. As of early 2016, according to HHS, 20 million more Americans have health insurance thanks to the ACA, and the Nation's uninsured rate now stands at the lowest level on record. These gains and reforms that improved coverage for all Americans are improving access to care and families' financial security, while the ACA's reforms to the healthcare delivery system are contributing to slower growth in healthcare costs and improving healthcare quality. Cost sharing reductions further help to improve the affordability of coverage options for eligible consumers. Moving forward, the Administration will work to build on this progress to further reduce the number of uninsured Americans, improve healthcare, and slow healthcare cost growth.

OMB respects Congress's oversight role in examining the Affordable Care Act and will continue to work with the Committee to respond to its requests for information. OMB has a long history of working collaboratively to respond to congressional inquiries and we will continue to work with this Committee to accommodate its request for information.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify today. I would be happy to answer your questions.