

# Speaker Ryan admits his Obamacare replacement plan needs help

By **James Williams** - March 19, 2017



Speaker Paul Ryan was clear his bill needs tweaking if it is to pass

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wisc.) says he will seek changes to a divisive GOP health care bill to provide more help to older people hard hit by the plan.

A Congressional Budget Office analysis last week concluded that older people would likely pay higher premiums under the proposal to repeal and replace Barack Obama's health care law.

Speaking on "Fox News Sunday," Ryan says he believes the CBO analysis is not accurate but agreed that people in their 50s and 60s experience higher health care costs.

The Wisconsin Republican says “we believe we should offer more assistance than what the bill currently does” and that it’s one of several possible revisions to help round up enough House votes for the bill.

*House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wis., center, standing with Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Greg Walden, R-Ore., right, and House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., left, speaks during a news conference on the American Health Care Act on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, March 7, 2017. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)*

A House vote on the plan is scheduled for Thursday.

Meanwhile, there was an all-out war on the Sunday political talk shows over the Republican health care bill.

Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) on Sunday said he does not believe proposed Republican healthcare legislation will pass through Congress.

“I don’t believe so. I think there’s enough conservatives that do not want ‘ObamaCare lite,’ ” Paul said on ABC’s “This Week.”

Paul during the interview stressed a clean repeal of ObamaCare.

“None of us ran on this plan. We ran on repealing ObamaCare because it doesn’t work,” Paul told ABC’s “This Week.”

Another major conservative voice that is not happy with Speaker Ryan’s plan was on CNN.

*Photo: AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, File*

Heritage Foundation President Jim DeMint said Sunday the Republican healthcare proposal will not pass Congress “without improvements.”

DeMint, a former Republican senator from South Carolina, told CNN’s “State of the Union” host Jake Tapper that President Trump is open to improvements.

“He’s very engaged and very open to improve the bill, but he’s very supportive of the idea

of getting this repeal through,” DeMint said.

## **James Williams**

Jim Williams is the Washington Bureau Chief, Digital Director as well as the Director of Special Projects for Genesis Communications. He is starting his third year as part of the team. This is Williams 40th year in the media business, and in that time he has served in a number of capacities. He is a seven time Emmy Award winning television producer, director, writer and executive. He has developed four regional sports networks, directed over 2,000 live sporting events including basketball, football, baseball hockey, soccer and even polo to name a few sports. Major events include three Olympic Games, two World Cups, two World Series, six NBA Playoffs, four Stanley Cup Playoffs, four NCAA Men’s National Basketball Championship Tournaments (March Madness), two Super Bowl and over a dozen college bowl games. On the entertainment side Williams was involved with Berman Concerts and directed over 500 concerts for Showtime, Pay Per View and MTV Networks.

