



OPPO DUMP:
VULNERABLE ARIZONA
REPUBLICANS ON HEALTH CARE

JD MESNARD (LD 17)

As chair of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Mesnard used his position to kill bills that would have capped the price of insulin, prevented insurance companies from issuing surprise bills, and stopped insurers from increasing the cost of diabetic supplies.

Over his long career in the Legislature, Mesnard has fought to keep local governments from requiring employers offer paid sick leave, supported imposing work requirements on Arizonans using the state's Medicaid program (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System [AHCCCS]), voted to stop Arizona from restoring the state's children's health insurance program (KidsCare), and was the only senator to vote against setting up a maternal mental health advisory committee.

Legislative Action

Killed bills to:

- ✓ Cap the price of insulin at \$100 per month. [[SB 1413](#), [SB 1601](#)]
- ✓ Prevent insurance companies from issuing surprise out-of-network bills. [[SB 1602](#)]
- ✓ Limit the costs from surprise out-of-network medical bills. [[SB 1469](#)]
- ✓ Prevent insurance companies from increasing costs for diabetic supplies. [[SB 1393](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Prevent Medicaid expansion in Arizona. [[HB 2010](#)]
- ✓ Cut AHCCCS coverage for up to 280,000 Arizonans. [[SB 1619](#)]
- ✓ Prevent local governments from requiring that employers provide health insurance to their employees. [[SB 1247](#)]
- ✓ Stop the state from restoring KidsCare. [[SB 1457](#), [HB 2309](#)]
- ✓ Impose work requirements for some Arizonans using AHCCCS. [[SB 1092](#), [HB 2367](#)]
- ✓ Implement lifetime caps on AHCCCS. [[HB 2367](#)]
- ✓ Allow junk insurance plans that don't cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]
- ✓ Extend the length of short-term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[SB 1109](#)]
- ✓ Prohibit any state-based health insurance marketplace under the Affordable Care Act. [[HB 2643](#)]
- ✓ End public funding of women's health centers that provide cancer screenings and other preventative medical treatments. [[HB 2800](#)]
- ✓ Block the creation of a Maternal Mental Health Advisory Committee. [[SB 1290](#)]
- ✓ Remove the requirement that foster parents vaccinate their children. [[SB 1108](#)]

KATE BROPHY MCGEE (LD 28)

The current chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, Senator Kate Brophy McGee sponsored a bill to expand access to junk insurance plans that could decide not to offer coverage for essential health benefits like hospitalizations and maternity care. She's also voted against allowing patients to challenge large surprise medical bills, supported ending public funding of women's health clinics that offer cancer screenings, and voted to remove the requirement that foster parents vaccinate their children.

Legislative Action

Sponsored a bill to:

- ✓ Allow more businesses to offer employees junk insurance plans that may not cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]

Killed bills to:

- ✓ Establish a task force to oversee Arizona long-term care facilities. [[SB 1199](#)]
- ✓ Expand Arizona's vaccine recording system to include adults. [[SB 1563](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Cut AHCCCS coverage for up to 280,000 Arizonans. [[SB 1619](#)]
- ✓ Prevent local governments from requiring that employers provide health insurance to their employees. [[SB 1247](#)]
- ✓ Allow junk insurance plans that don't cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]
- ✓ Expand the length of short-term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[SB 1109](#)]
- ✓ Prevent patients from challenging "surprise" medical bills. [[SB 1441](#)]
- ✓ Impose work requirements for some Arizonans using AHCCCS. [[SB 1092](#) [HB 2367](#)]
- ✓ Implement lifetime caps on AHCCCS. [[HB 2367](#)]
- ✓ Prohibit any state-based health insurance marketplace under the Affordable Care Act. [[HB 2643](#)]
- ✓ End public funding of women's health centers that provide cancer screenings and other preventative medical treatments. [[HB 2800](#)]
- ✓ Remove the requirement that foster parents vaccinate their children. [[SB 1108](#)]

ANTHONY KERN (LD 20)

Representative Kern has used his position as chair of the House Rules committee to kill bills that would have provided dental care to pregnant women enrolled in the state's Medicaid program (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System [AHCCCS]), and increased access to primary care providers for the Navajo Nation before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rep. Kern has supported increasing the number of vaccine exemptions and voted to require doctors to overemphasize vaccine risks before giving them. He also opposed the restoration of Arizona's children's health insurance program, KidsCare, and voted to prevent Arizonans from being able to challenge surprise medical bills.

They Did What!?

Arizona Mirror: Kern killed "A bipartisan bill that would have directed the Arizona Board of Regents to establish an area health education center around Native American Health" [[4/15/20](#)]

Legislative Action

Co-sponsored bills to:

- ✓ Extend the length of short term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[HB 2375](#)]

Killed bills to:

- ✓ Require AHCCCS providers to offer up to 10 hours of diabetes outpatient self-management training to patients. [[SB 1151](#), [SB 1353](#)]
- ✓ Provide dental care to pregnant women on AHCCCS. [[SB 1088](#)]
- ✓ Establish a health education center for Arizona's Native populations. [[SB 1174](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Prevent local governments from requiring that employers provide health insurance to their employees. [[SB 1247](#)]
- ✓ Allow more businesses to offer employees junk insurance plans that don't cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]
- ✓ Extend the length of short-term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[SB 1109](#), [HB 2375](#)]
- ✓ Allow religious exemptions from immunization requirements for public school. [[HB 2470](#)]
- ✓ Require health professionals to provide information that over emphasizes risks of vaccines before administering one. [[HB 2471](#)]
- ✓ Prevent patients from challenging "surprise" medical bills. [[SB 1441](#)]
- ✓ Allow funding freezes for KidsCare. [[HB 2127](#)]
- ✓ Stop the state from restoring KidsCare. [[SB 1457](#), [HB 2309](#)]
- ✓ Impose work requirements for some Arizonans using AHCCCS. [[SB 1092](#)]
- ✓ Prohibit any state-based health insurance marketplace under the Affordable Care Act. [[HB 2643](#)]
- ✓ Block dental care for pregnant women on AHCCCS [[HB 2727](#)]
- ✓ Stop Severe Combined Immunodeficiency from being added to newborn screenings. [[SB 1368](#)]
- ✓ Block dental care for pregnant women on AHCCCS. [[SB 1088](#)]

Positions

Said He Would "Get The Government Out Of Healthcare." [Anthony Kern – iVoterGuide, accessed [8/5/20](#)]

RICK GRAY (LD 21)

Senator Gray has spent his long career in the Legislature working to limit access to health care, including kicking up to 280,000 Arizonans off the state's Medicaid program (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System [AHCCCS]), opposing the restoration of the state's children's health insurance program (KidsCare), voting to end public funding of women's health clinics that provide cancer screenings for thousands of Arizonans, and pushing an anti-vaccination agenda.

Legislative Action

Sponsored a bill to:

- ✓ Remove the requirement that foster parents vaccinate their children. [[HB 2348](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Cut AHCCCS coverage for up to 280,000 Arizonans. [[SB 1619](#)]
- ✓ Prevent local governments from requiring that employers provide health insurance to their employees. [[SB 1247](#)]
- ✓ Allow more businesses to offer junk insurance plans that don't cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]
- ✓ Repeal a voter-approved law requiring employers provide paid sick leave. [[SCR 1016](#)]
- ✓ Stop the state from restoring KidsCare. [[HB 2309](#)]
- ✓ Impose work requirements for some Arizonans using AHCCCS. [[SB 1092](#), [HB 2367](#)]
- ✓ Implement lifetime caps on AHCCCS. [[HB 2367](#)]
- ✓ Prohibit any state-based health insurance marketplace under the Affordable Care Act. [[HB 2643](#)]
- ✓ Prevent Medicaid expansion in Arizona. [[HB 2010](#), [HB 1492](#)]
- ✓ End public funding of women's health centers that provide cancer screenings and other preventative medical treatments. [[HB 2800](#)]
- ✓ Extend the length of short-term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[SB 1109](#)]

- ✓ Remove the requirement that foster parents vaccinate their children. [[SB 1108](#)]
- ✓ Prevent pharmacists from administering vaccines without a prescription. [[SB 1334](#)]

JEFF WENINGER (LD 17)

Representative Weninger co-sponsored a bill to prohibit local government from requiring employers provide health insurance-- an essential benefit if the Affordable Care Act is repealed like the Trump administration intends.

Weninger also voted to stop the restoration of the state's children's health insurance program (KidsCare), and to expand access to junk insurance plans that may not cover essential health benefits like maternity care or hospitalizations.

Legislative Action

Co-sponsored a bill to:

- ✓ Prevent local governments from requiring that employers provide health insurance to their employees. [[SB 1247](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Prevent local governments from requiring that employers provide health insurance to their employees. [[SB 1247](#)]
- ✓ Stop the state from restoring KidsCare. [[SB 1457](#)]
- ✓ Impose work requirements for some Arizonans using AHCCCS. [[SB 1092](#)]
- ✓ Prohibit any state-based health insurance marketplace under the Affordable Care Act. [[HB 2643](#)]
- ✓ Allow more businesses to offer junk insurance plans that don't cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]
- ✓ Extend the length of short term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[SB 1109](#)]

Who's Funding Them?

2018: Weninger accepted \$3,000 from UnitedHealth Group Inc. PAC [Weninger For AZ House Campaign Finance Report, filed 4/16/18; 10/15/18]

2018: Weninger Accepted \$2,000 From Cardinal Health PAC. [Weninger For AZ House Campaign Finance Report, filed 7/16/18]

2017-2018: Weninger accepted \$800 from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Of Arizona Healthy Government Committee [Weninger For AZ House Campaign Finance Report, filed 1/15/18; 4/16/18; 10/29/18]

2016-2018: Weninger Accepted \$800 From Pfizer Inc. PAC. [Weninger For AZ House Campaign Finance Report, filed 1/15/18; 10/15/18; 11/3/16]

2014: Weninger accepted \$500 from United For Health PAC. [Weninger For AZ House Campaign Finance Report, filed 11/1/14]

2018: Weninger accepted \$300 from the Magellan Health Services Employee Committee For Good Government. [Weninger For AZ House Campaign Finance Report, filed 1/15/19]

2018: Weninger Accepted \$300 From Tenet Healthcare Corporation PAC. [Weninger For AZ House Campaign Finance Report, filed 10/15/18]

WALT BLACKMAN (LD 6)

In his short time in the state House, Representative Blackman has voted to expand access to junk insurance plans that may not offer essential health benefits, including maternity care, hospitalizations, and newborn care. He's also co-sponsored an anti-vaccination bill that would replace the FDA's vaccine approval process.

Legislative Action

Co-sponsored bills to:

- ✓ Replace the FDA vaccine approval process [[HB 2486](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Allow more businesses to offer junk insurance plans that don't cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]
- ✓ Extend the length of short term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[SB 1109](#)]

SHAWNNA BOLICK (LD 20)

During her time in the Legislature, Representative Bolick has co-sponsored a bill to replace the FDA's vaccine approval process, voted to expand access to junk insurance plans, and voted against providing dental care to pregnant women on the state's Medicaid program, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS).

Legislative Action

Co-Sponsored bills to:

- ✓ Replace the FDA vaccine approval process [[HB 2486](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Allow more businesses to offer junk insurance plans that don't cover essential health benefits, including hospitalization, maternity, and newborn care. [[SB 1085](#)]
- ✓ Extend the length of short term insurance plans that could refuse to cover pre-existing conditions or maternity care. [[SB 1109](#)]
- ✓ Block dental care for pregnant women on AHCCCS [[HB 2727](#)]

Positions

Bolick Said She Would Eliminate Barriers To The Sale Of Health Insurance Policies Across State Lines. [Shawanna Bolick – iVoterGuide, accessed [8/5/20](#)]

WENDY ROGERS (LD 6)

Wendy Rogers has never held elected office, but in her years of running for Congress, she has consistently called for repealing the Affordable Care Act. She even suggested a “market for organ transplants” as a viable alternative to the ACA.

They Said What!?

[Audio] Rogers suggested “market for organ transplants” as an alternative to the Affordable Care Act. [Wendy Rogers, Liberty Storm 960 AM The Patriot, [8/17/13](#)]

[Video] Rogers: “We must repeal Obamacare for the sake of our nation’s health.” [Wendy Rogers, Campaign Announcement, [2/26/18](#)]

[Video] Rogers: “My fervent desire is that, as a congresswoman, I will be able to dismantle and repeal Obamacare bit by bit and that I will be a part of bleeding the monster.” [Wendy Rogers, Western Free Press interview, [7/03/12](#)]

Positions

Rogers: “In Congress, I will work to repeal and defund Obamacare” [WendyRogers.org, archived [10/05/18](#)]

Rogers: “I would have twice voted to repeal and defund” the Affordable Care Act. [WendyRogers.org, archived [2/21/14](#)]