



Issue Essentials

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Jay Webber Keen to Kill ACA (also known as Obamacare)

Vice President Mike Pence said if Republicans retain control of Congress this fall, they [plan](#) another vote to end the Affordable Healthcare Act (ACA), also known as Obamacare. Jay Webber is championing at the bit, hoping to win in District 11 so he can vote with them to [kill the ACA](#) – which would yank healthcare coverage from about [24,000](#) fellow constituents.

- *[“I’m committed to replacing Obamacare,”](#)* said Webber, who supported last year’s deeply unpopular Republican bill to repeal and replace the ACA.
- Webber’s opposition to the ACA ignores overwhelming support for it, nationally and in District 11. The Republican repeal-and-replace bill polled at just [17% approval](#) weeks before it failed in the Senate. Last year a district-wide [poll](#) commissioned by NJ 11th showed similarly low support ([24.7%](#)) for repeal, while an overwhelming [69.2%](#) favored retaining or improving Obamacare.
- The Republican bill would have stripped healthcare insurance from [23 million Americans](#), reported the Congressional Budget Office.

Webber instead wants to allow [out-of-state insurers](#) to sell skimpy healthcare plans that lack [essential benefits](#) – including maternity and newborn care, hospitalization, emergency room care and mental health services. In contrast, the ACA mandates that most plans include these and other essential benefits.

- These plans would also strip other ACA consumer protections by allowing [significantly higher premiums](#) for older Americans and **denying coverage for people with pre-existing conditions.**
- These skimpy plans also attract healthy people, causing ACA coverage rates to soar for those who are older and less healthy. Higher prices would force many of older Americans out of the market, leaving them exposed to financial ruin, reports [AARP](#).
- Webber [voted](#) in the State Assembly against a bill to create an NJ Health Benefit Exchange. The bill, which Gov. Christie vetoed in 2012, would have provided an NJ-managed [one-stop shop](#) for people or businesses to compare costs and benefits of participating plans.
- However, a Democratic governor and legislature passed a [law](#) in May creating NJ’s own health insurance mandate, which protects recent gains in insurance coverage, controls premium prices, and ensures NJ still receives billions in federal funding. **Webber voted against this sensible bill.**
- Because of the new law, premiums in [NJ](#) are projected to [drop 9.3%](#) in 2019, even as they rise modestly in most of the U.S., [noted](#) *New York Times* columnist Paul Krugman.
- “Obamacare would be doing even better if it were run by people who weren’t trying to kill it,” Krugman added. **Webber is one of those people who have been trying for years to kill it.**