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Roslyn Smith
Executive Director

**NATIONAL BLACK CAUCUS OF STATE LEGISLATORS
OPPOSES SENATE PROPOSED HEALTH CARE BILL**

June 23, 2017 – Yesterday, Senate Republicans released a proposed bill that would make severe cuts to Medicaid, end the individual mandate, and repeals billions of dollars in taxes that were used to raise money to pay for expansion. NBCSL President Rep. Gregory W. Porter (IN) offered the following statement:

“It is deeply troubling that the onslaught against the Affordable Care Act, a law that has brought health insurance coverage to millions of Americans continues to be under siege. This proposed bill in its current form, is an attack on millions of individuals who have been able to receive health care coverage through Medicaid expansion. The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) was one of the ACA’s earliest supporters, because an increase in access to coverage meant a significant movement to decrease health care disparities, especially among communities of color and the indigent. This proposed bill will be harmful to seniors, those accessing services through organizations like Planned Parenthood, and the families that used tax credits to purchase insurance. As an organization representing over 65 million people, we hope that Congress and the administration will be open to insight from those of us on the ground seeing the impact. NBCSL and its members will continue to work on keeping our communities healthy and eliminating health disparities. We will be focused on closing the coverage gap where we can and ensuring that individuals are not left without adequate care.”

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About NBCSL

The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) is composed of nearly 700 Black state legislators across 46 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Its primary mission is to develop, conduct and promote educational, research and training programs designed to enhance the effectiveness of its members, as they consider legislation and issues of public policy which impact, either directly or indirectly upon "the general welfare" of African American constituents within their respective jurisdictions.