



NEWS RELEASE

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HEALTH CARE FOR COVID-19 SURVIVORS, UNEMPLOYED AT RISK THANKS TO REPUBLICAN ACA LAWSUIT

Weinzapfel is the only candidate opposed to overturning health care law

EVANSVILLE, Ind. – Hoosiers who survive COVID-19 are now at risk of losing their health insurance, if the Republican candidates for Indiana Attorney General have their way and the Affordable Care Act is overturned.

Last week, all four Republican candidates indicated their support for a lawsuit that, if successful, would take away health care from thousands of working Hoosier families, destroy the state's Healthy Indiana Plan and gut protections for those with pre-existing conditions.

"I can't think of a worse idea than to take people's health care away in the midst of a global pandemic and economic slowdown," said Jonathan Weinzapfel, the Democratic nominee for Indiana Attorney General and the only candidate who opposes the lawsuit. "People have lost their jobs and their insurance along with it. They are turning to the ACA to get coverage. We can't allow that to be taken away, especially now."

Indiana's unemployment rate is 12.3 percent, with approximately 315,000 Hoosiers out of work.

"This lawsuit also wants to send us back to the days when insurance companies could refuse to cover someone because of a pre-existing condition," added Weinzapfel. "COVID-19 is now a pre-existing condition. That means all those who've been infected could soon be kicked off of their insurance plans, just when they need it most. We can't let that happen."

There are an estimated 2.7 million Hoosiers with pre-existing conditions, not including COVID-19 patients, that could all be affected. If successful, the lawsuit would also end funding for the 500,000 Hoosiers on Indiana's Medicaid expansion program and would increase insurance rates for those with private insurance.

"If successful not only could this lawsuit put lives in danger, it could also reek untold economic damage on families who will lose coverage and be forced to pay medical bills out of pocket," said Weinzapfel. "This lawsuit is wrong, irresponsible and dangerous. That's why I am stunned that all of my Republican opponents have embraced it. It's another sad example of putting politics before people, and why, no matter who their nominee is, Hoosiers will reject them this November."

Jonathan Weinzapfel was elected mayor of Evansville in 2003 and re-elected in 2007. After his two terms as mayor, Weinzapfel served as chancellor of the Ivy Tech Evansville campus from 2014-2019. He also served in the Indiana General Assembly as a state representative from 1999-2003. He currently works as a partner at the law firm of Jones Wallace in Evansville. Jonathan and his wife Patricia reside in Evansville and have three children.

For more information on Jonathan or his campaign for Indiana Attorney General, please visit www.WeinzapfelForAG.com. To schedule an interview, email media@weinzapfelforAG.com.

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