

# Press Releases: Democratic Republic of the Congo National Day

Press Statement  
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Secretary of State

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Best wishes to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 57 years of independence.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo stands at a critical juncture, with an opportunity to build on and consolidate the important gains of the past years through an historic peaceful and democratic transfer of power. We wish the Democratic Republic of the Congo success as it strives to build a better future where all Congolese can participate freely in the democratic election of their leaders, benefit from the country's enormous resource wealth, and work together in building a peaceful and prosperous future.

The United States stands with the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in these efforts and is committed to helping your country realize its full potential.

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## Breaking the Beltway Mentality:

# Billions in New Spending Is Not a 'Cut'



Under the healthcare bill currently being considered by the Senate, spending on Medicaid, the healthcare program that covers 75 million Americans, would increase from \$393 billion this year to \$464 billion in 2027—and that's adjusting for inflation.

Yet Democrats are claiming this is a "cut" to the program. Only in Washington would anyone have the nerve to claim an 18 percent increase in government spending on top of inflation is a "cut."

The reality is that the Senate's healthcare bill, like the legislation passed by the House of Representatives, strengthens and reforms Medicaid.

Medicaid has seen out of control spending growth: twenty years ago, spending on the program was under \$200 billion annually; within a decade, it is expected to top \$1 trillion in total spending.

The Senate bill would refocus the program on the people it was designed to serve, who need the most help: the disabled, the elderly, and pregnant mothers and their children. It would give states the flexibility they need to serve those populations and come up with cost-saving, quality-improving innovations. It would also fix the flawed incentives that have driven out of control spending on Medicaid, while ensuring states have the resources they need to protect their vulnerable populations.

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## Remember All of Obamacare's Broken Promises?

There were a lot of promises made in selling Obamacare—and it seems like just about all of them have been broken.

They told us if you liked your doctor, you could keep your doctor . . . and yet so many Americans have lost access to their doctors under new Obamacare insurance plans.

They told us if you liked your health insurance plan, you could keep it . . . and yet millions of Americans saw their insurance plans canceled because of Obamacare.

They promised that premiums would go down by \$2,500 and that everyone in

America would be covered. Here's what President Obama guaranteed back when he was on the campaign trail:

*"Our conscience cannot rest so long as nearly 45 million Americans don't have health insurance and the millions more who do are going bankrupt trying to pay for it. I have made a solemn pledge that I will sign a universal health care bill into law by the end of my first term as president that will cover every American and cut the cost of a typical family's premiums by up to \$2,500 a year. That's not simply a matter of policy or ideology—it's a moral commitment."*

Both those promises have been broken too.

Far from covering every American, Obamacare has left 28 million uninsured.



In fact, despite all the disruption and the billions in spending, as of February 2017 Obamacare's exchanges cover just 10.3 million people. That's less than half the number of Americans the Congressional Budget Office estimated back in 2012 would be enrolled.



And premiums didn't go down by \$2,500 for the average family—they went up by nearly \$3,000!


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## [President Trump Welcomes President Moon to the White House](#)

This week, President Donald J. Trump hosted President Moon of South Korea at the White House.



At their dinner on Thursday evening, President Trump congratulated President Moon on his electoral victory and thanked him for coming to the White House. Early Friday morning, Vice President Pence and President Moon laid a wreath at the Korean War Memorial to commemorate the American and Korean Veterans who lost their lives to preserve freedom in the Korean Peninsula. Later that morning, President Trump and President Moon met privately in the Oval Office. Afterwards, President Trump led an expanded bilateral meeting in the Cabinet room.

 President Trump and President Moon issued joint statements after the meetings, reaffirming the strong ties between America and South Korea.

# President Trump Issues Executive Order on Reviving the National Space Council

On Friday, President Donald J. Trump issued an Executive Order to revive the National Space Council.



President George H.W. Bush established the National Space Council in 1989. The Council was tasked with advising and assisting the President regarding

national space policy and strategy. The Council ceased operation in 1993. This Executive Order revives the Council and will reinvigorate America's role as a leader in space, strengthen America's economy, and advance the security of the American people.



# THE GOV

Vice President Mike Pence introduced the President before the signing of the Executive Order. As the Chairman of the National Space Council, the Vice President will play an indispensable role in crafting America's space policy.



The Vice President said that he was honored and enthusiastic to act as Chairman of the Council. He stated that the Administration's commitment to space exploration will "strengthen the American spirit" and inspire the American people to "blaze new trails into the unknown".

Watch President Trump and Vice President Pence's remarks below.