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**Wire Report**  
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## Health industry players criticize GOP plan

WASHINGTON — Major associations representing physicians, hospitals, insurers and seniors all leveled sharp attacks against the House GOP's plan to rewrite the Affordable Care Act Wednesday, as some Republicans publicly questioned whether the measure can clear the House of Representatives.

“Right now I feel confident saying there aren't 218 votes for this,” said Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., a member of the conservative Freedom Caucus, who was referring to the number of votes needed to pass the measure out of the House. Perry opposes the proposal.

Idaho Rep. Raul Labrador also rejects the plan. He said in a statement that voters “sent me to Washington to get rid of Obamacare” and replace it with an alternative. He said he had spent two days reviewing the GOP-backed American Health Care Act, “and unfortunately, it is not that bill.”

He said he was willing to work with House leadership and President Trump to find a solution to this “critical problem.”

While industry groups — among them AARP, the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Federation and America's Health Insurance Plans — warned that the proposal could leave vulnerable Americans with fewer protections than they now have, GOP leaders pressed ahead, bringing legislation before two key committees that are expected to approve the bills by week's end. They were also working in concert with the White House to win over conservatives, who have complained that the proposal preserves too much of the current law.

The flurry of activity — including an evening meeting between President Donald Trump and leaders from five skeptical conservative groups — created new uncertainty about the viability of Republicans' signature promise to repeal and replace Obamacare.

The day's events also showed the uneasy predicament facing House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., the proposal's chief booster, who described the plan Wednesday as a “conservative wish list” that would deliver on years of GOP campaign promises to reform the nation's health care system.

The barrage of criticism shows how fraught the terrain of health care policy is. It also reflects a backlash prompted at least partly by the breakneck speed with which House Republicans are trying to push through their proposal — with little upfront effort to work with interest groups or political factions.

Ryan said Wednesday that House Republicans promised voters to undo the ACA, saying it is “the covenant we made with the American people when we ran on a repeal-and-replace plan in 2016.”

— by Juliet Eilperin and Mike Debonis for *The Washington Post*

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