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**Statement from A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO  
Illinois Health and Hospital Association  
*Re: U.S. Senate efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act***

For the past seven months as Congress has considered major healthcare policy changes, the Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA) and Illinois hospital community have been steadfast in our commitment to ensuring continued coverage and access to healthcare for Illinoisans, including under the Medicaid program.

Following the outcome of this morning's U.S. Senate vote, key stakeholders, including the hospital community, should be brought together in a bipartisan and deliberative process to address critical issues facing our healthcare system. We recognize that much work needs to be done to strengthen the individual marketplace, and we hope that the Administration will work within its authority to achieve this important outcome.

More than one million Illinoisans have coverage under the Affordable Care Act, enabling them to get the healthcare they need when they need it. IHA and the hospital community are committed to working with the Illinois Congressional Delegation on ways to ensure continued access to healthcare for all Illinoisans.

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**About IHA**

The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, with offices in Chicago, Naperville, Springfield and Washington, D.C., advocates for Illinois' more than 200 hospitals and nearly 50 health systems as they serve their patients and communities. IHA members provide a broad range of services—not just within their walls, but across the continuum of health care and in their communities. Reflecting the diversity of the state, IHA members consist of nonprofit, investor-owned and public hospitals in the following categories: community, safety net, rural, critical access, specialty and teaching hospitals, including academic medical centers. For more information, see [www.team-iha.org](http://www.team-iha.org).