



The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States
503 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

June 17, 2019

Dear Senator Brown:

On behalf of more than 30,000 people with cystic fibrosis (CF), the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation applauds your effort to protect people with pre-existing conditions in the individual marketplace by introducing *The Family Coverage Act* eliminating the “family glitch” from the Affordable Care Act. Currently, families are only eligible to receive premium subsidies if they are not offered “affordable” coverage through an employer. However, the definition of “affordable” is based on the cost of insuring the employee, not the rest of his or her family. As a result, some employees may be ineligible for ACA subsidies but also do not have access to affordable insurance through their employer. This technical issue has had real consequences for some families, forcing them to spend a large portion of their income on coverage or forgo coverage entirely. Eliminating this policy could make coverage more affordable for the family of someone with CF which would provide them better access to the care they need.

People with CF require a complex and demanding care regimen and face a life-long challenge of obtaining access to high-quality, specialized health care. Eliminating the “family glitch” will support access to affordable health insurance for people with CF and their families who may not have access to such coverage through their employer.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this critical issue for people with pre-existing conditions like CF and we support your efforts to eliminate the family glitch and expand access to affordable coverage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary B. Dwight".

Mary B. Dwight
Senior VP of Policy & Advocacy
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation