

For Immediate Release
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ICYMI: Reps. Buchanan, Panetta re-introduce bipartisan bill to expand pre-deductible coverage of chronic care

On Monday (February 4), Reps. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) and Jimmy Panetta (D-CA) announced that they have re-introduced legislation to **allow employers to offer pre-deductible coverage of chronic disease treatments for those with high-deductible health plans (HDHPs)**.

The bill would codify a 2019 policy that allows employers offering HDHPs to cover certain chronic disease treatments before the deductible. This commonsense bill gives employers more **flexibility in covering essential chronic disease treatments** -- including beta-blockers for heart failure, blood pressure monitors for hypertension, glucometers for diabetes, and inhalers for asthma -- while **easing the financial burden on employees** working to manage their health. Under the bill, HDHPs could cover up to 14 critical chronic care services pre-deductible and it includes the ability to update this list over time to ensure continued access to evolving treatments.

"The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** appreciates the bipartisan work of Representatives Buchanan and Panetta in introducing the Chronic Disease Flexible Coverage Act," said **Katy Johnson**, president of the **American Benefits Council**. "Allowing employers and health plans to offer more chronic disease prevention pre-deductible will help millions of Americans better manage their conditions. The Alliance has been a long supporter of this common-sense policy."

The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** is a broad-based coalition comprised of businesses, patient advocates, employer organizations, unions, health care companies, consumer groups and other stakeholders that support employer-provided health coverage. Together, we are working to ensure that employer-provided coverage remains an available and affordable option for working Americans and their families.

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