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Jason Smith's Capitol Report: Friday, January 29, 2016

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Congressman Jason Smith Capitol Report: Overriding a Presidential Veto Friday, January 29, 2016

Next week the U.S. House will take the historic action of attempting to override a Presidential Veto. In early January, for the first time since Obamacare was signed into law without a single Republican vote, Congress sent a bill repealing the President's namesake law to his desk. I voted in support of that repeal, a vote which would have dismantled Obamacare, fully defunded Planned Parenthood, and reduced the deficit by \$516 billion.

With that vote, the U.S. House and Senate stood with the American people and delivered Obamacare its biggest blow yet. The bipartisan repeal bill would have ended the catastrophic and costly individual and employer mandates, eliminated a host of associated taxes, and reduced the government intrusion between you and your doctor.

Unfortunately, as soon as that bill hit President Obama's desk, he promptly vetoed it.

Next week I will be supporting Congress's first veto override attempt of this President. Simply put, the American people deserve a patient-centered health care system which is free of government intrusion. I will vote to override the President's veto because repealing Obamacare is the right thing to do in order to restore the doctor-patient

relationship and get our country on track to create a market based, competitive health care system that's actually affordable.

Obamacare is a failure, even by the government's own standards. The Congressional Budget Office recently reported that by 2025 Obamacare will cost the economy an equivalent of 2 million full-time jobs. Consumers have been left with fewer choices and health care remains un-affordable.

You elected me to put a major repeal of Obamacare on the president's desk and to force him to answer the question, "Whose best interest do you have at heart?" When President Obama vetoed this bill he answered loud and clear, "I've chosen my own legacy and my own interests, over those of hardworking Americans." He cares more about protecting his signature namesake law, than improving the healthcare system in this country.

Individuals should have the ability to choose their own doctor. They should be able to purchase affordable, high-quality health care insurance that offers the best healthcare safety net option for their family. Competition without government intrusion should help drive down prices and businesses should not be hampered by confusing and conflicting healthcare regulatory paperwork. Unfortunately, even bipartisan agreement in Congress isn't enough to get this President to accept changes to his namesake healthcare law. I know many will join me next week in attempting to override his veto and I can only hope it's enough. When it comes to affordable and accessible healthcare, we all deserve better.

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