

June 12, 2017

Representative Garland Barr
1427 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Dear Representative Barr:

In an honest effort to better understand some of the stands you take on issues important to our state, we have listed some questions below. We would greatly appreciate it if you could get back to us with answers to these questions sometime in the next month. Our goal is to start a two way conversation exploring how we might find common ground to solve some of our most pressing problems.

When we receive your answers, we will post them to our Facebook page and our website, as well as share them with local media so more citizens can better understand these issues.

Thank you very much,

Members of Indivisible Bluegrass
info@indivisiblebluegrass.org

Questions

1. How will the Financial Choice Act protect consumers from such problems as predatory lending, excessive fees for services, ultra high risk stock market behaviors, and financial advisors who look out for their interests instead of ours?
2. If Mr. Barr is for the “little guy in banking” why has he accepted \$900,000 in campaign contributions from the financial services industry? How can I trust that he will speak for me or even the small banks when he gets so much money from people who want free rein? Why is it not possible to protect small banks at the same time we protect consumers from unethical practices on Wall Street and those in the financial sector who are unscrupulous?
3. The bill would destroy the independence of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and significantly reduce its scope. Under Dodd Frank, the CFPB cracked down on predatory lenders and big banks that break the law. The CFPB obtained \$11.8 billion in relief for over 29 million Americans after the crash. If Congress will now control the much reduced CFPB and Congressmen like Rep. Barr receive millions in donations from the big banks and Wall Street, how does that protect the everyday consumer?
4. For decades, shareholders have engaged with publicly-traded companies through filing of shareholder proposals that have protected the environment from further degradation, employees from discrimination, children from slave labor, and much more. As a part-owner in a company, I need a formal mechanism to engage with companies and fellow shareholders to make sure the companies I own part of respond to my concerns. The Financial Choice Act eliminates that right. Who will now look after my interests?

June 22, 2017

Senator Mitch McConnell
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McConnell,

In an honest effort to better understand some of the stands you take on issues important to our state, we have listed some questions below. We would greatly appreciate it if you could get back to us with answers to these questions sometime in the next month. Our goal is to start a two way conversation exploring how we might find common ground to solve some of our most pressing problems.

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Questions

1. Do you believe that healthcare is a right due to all citizens?
2. Why is healthcare so much more expensive in the U.S. than in other countries and why is it not possible to rein in those costs? The ACA had at least slowed that growth. Is the AHCA senate committee looking at how so many other countries manage to provide health care for all? If not, why not?
3. What is your thinking about canceling the taxes on the wealthy that supported the ACA? How does that tax cut help people who will lose their health care under this bill. What are the moral implications of cutting healthcare for the poor so that you can give tax cuts to the wealthy?
4. Please explain exactly how the senate bill plans to provide care for people with pre-existing conditions, including whether you believe the amount of money for high risk pools is sufficient and why.

Senator Rand Paul
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Paul,

In an honest effort to better understand some of the stands you take on issues important to our state, we have listed some questions below. We would greatly appreciate it if you could get back to us with answers to these questions sometime in the next month. Our goal is to start a two way conversation exploring how we might find common ground to solve some of our most pressing problems.

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3. What is your thinking about canceling the taxes on the wealthy that supported the ACA? How does that tax cut help people who will lose their health care under this bill. What are the moral implications of cutting healthcare for the poor so that you can give tax cuts to the wealthy?
4. Please explain exactly how the senate bill plans to provide care for people with pre-existing conditions, including whether you believe the amount of money for high risk pools is sufficient and why.