March 6, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Chair, Energy & Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Ranking Member, Energy & Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Chair, Ways & Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member, Ways & Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairmen Walden and Brady, and Ranking Members Pallone and Neal:

On behalf of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), we are deeply concerned by the process currently underway to reform our nation’s health care system.

ACOG reluctantly opposed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2010, and we acknowledge the need for additional reforms and improvements to address continued barriers to care and ensure our health care system is optimized for patients and their physicians. However, we do not support rolling back the coverage and access protections guaranteed under current law.

As you know, changes to our nation’s health care system come with major implications for ob-gyns and our patients. The ACA included landmark women’s health gains and market improvements that are now woven into the fabric of our health care system. We must not turn the clock back on women’s health. It is for these reasons that any reform proposals must be released in detail, including legislative language and a Congressional Budget Office (CBO) score, before being advanced through the legislative process. Given the complexity of these issues, it is imperative to allow for opportunity for analysis, review, and input from stakeholders.

As conversations around the future of our health care system progress, we urge you to continue to ensure that coverage and access are at minimum maintained, and ideally improved, for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Gellhaus, MD, FACOG  
President