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LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

Gov. Wolf Says Republican Health Care Agenda Will Put PA Residents At Risk

Since the ACA became law in 2012, [700,000 people have received coverage in Pennsylvania](#). According to Wolf, 125,000 of those people are receiving treatment for opioid addiction. In a conference call with Wolf and Democratic Sen. Bob Casey, Attorney General Josh Shapiro said that the new law will leave those battling addiction without a care plan.

“The bill actually eliminates the guaranteed support for substance abuse treatment in both private plans and in Medicaid,” Shapiro said. “That will affect 175,000 Pennsylvanians who have come to depend on access to this treatment.”

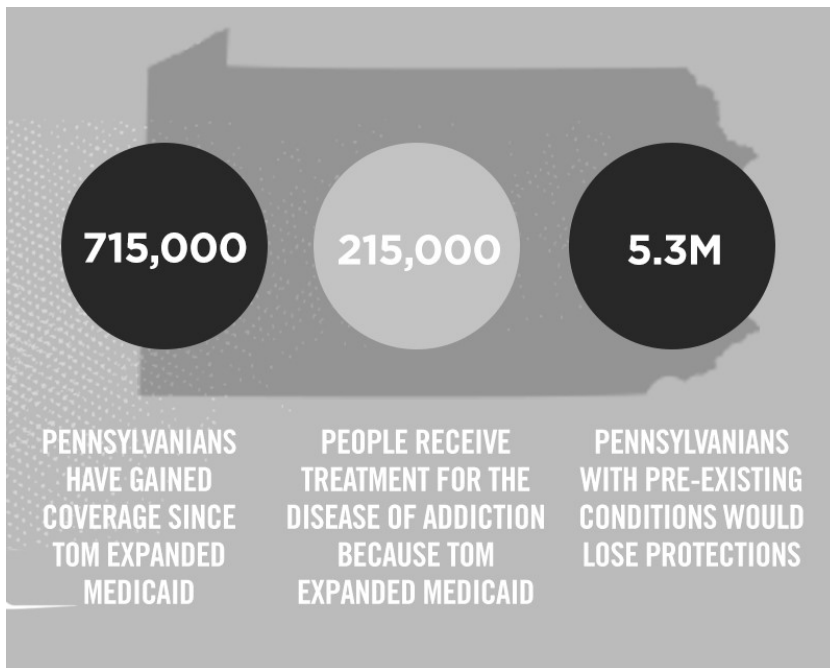
Shapiro said that [13 people die every day from overdoses in Pennsylvania](#), and that the state ranks third for opioid related deaths. He said that, if they lose their coverage, it will have an immediate effect on local communities.

“The reality is, if they go ahead and cut treatment, that makes our job in law enforcement next to impossible,” he said.

Casey expressed similar sentiments when he talked about the bill. He said the bill will hit rural counties the hardest. Casey said that in the last month, he has visited 11 rural counties where 54,000 people are insured by the ACA. He said they may lose this coverage.

On top of Pennsylvanians losing access to health care, Casey said the new bill could also affect the job market.

“This bill is a wrecking ball for our health care system,” Casey said. “[Rural hospitals](#) will be closed, jobs will be lost. By one estimate, George Washington University tell us that more than 62,000 healthcare jobs will be lost in Pennsylvania.”



PRESS RELEASE, VETERANS

Wolf Administration Assists Veterans in Need of Important Military Paperwork

July 17, 2017

Harrisburg, PA – Leaving the military can be a hectic and stressful time. Through all the commotion, veterans often forget how important it is to properly record and safeguard their most important military paperwork – the DD-214. That is where the Wolf Administration’s Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) can help.

The DD-214 is issued upon a military service member’s retirement, separation, or discharge from active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. It contains information normally needed to verify military service for benefits, retirement, employment, and membership in veterans’ organizations.

“In our commonwealth and our country, we have set aside certain benefits, resources, and job opportunities for our service members so that we can pay some small measure of the gratitude that we owe our servicemen and women and our veterans for their sacrifice on behalf of all of us,”

Governor Wolf said. “The DD-214 is one such document that helps ensure our veterans receive the benefits they have earned through their selfless service.”

“A large percentage of requests we receive is for assistance in locating a veteran’s DD-214,” said Maj. Gen. (ret.) Eric Weller, deputy adjutant general of veterans’ affairs. “Our agency takes great pride in helping to track down this important paperwork, knowing that it can open doors while avoiding conflicts and delays for veterans.”

The DMVA can also assist with locating the DD-215, which is used to correct errors or make additions to a DD-214, helping to assure that veterans have accurate discharge documentation.

Weller said that the easiest way to manage military documents and avoid having to one day frantically search for them is to make sure they are filed in a safe place.

“We suggest that every service member exiting the military stop by the courthouse in

their county of record to file their DD-214\215 with the veterans' affairs office," said Weller. "This way, veterans and their family members will always know where to find an official copy and avoid a time-consuming search in the event that the original paper version gets lost. Regardless, if a Pennsylvania veteran needs our help, the DMVA will work hard to find these precious documents for them." Anyone needing assistance from the DMVA to locate their DD-214\215, or other military

documentation, can call 717-861-8910 or e-mail Email: RA-REQ@pa.gov. Another way to stay in touch is for veterans, family members and people who work with veterans to sign up for the DMVA's Veterans Registry by visiting www.register.dmva.pa.gov. Registration is available by computer or mobile device. More information about locating military documents can be found by visiting the [Pennsylvania DMVA](#).

Water infrastructure projects receive funding

Gov. Tom Wolf on Wednesday announced \$75 million for water infrastructure projects through the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority.

According to a press release, the money will go to 23 water, wastewater, stormwater and non-point source projects in 20 counties in the commonwealth.

Potter Township received a \$1.68 million loan and \$1.38 million grant to construct a 14,000 gallon per day sewage treatment plant, three and a half mile of new force mains, the release said. They will also be able to install 57 new septic tanks.

In addition, the Tri-Municipal Park received a \$107,891 loan and \$215,778 grant to construct

vegetated swales, rain gardens and a detention/infiltration basin in order to eliminate stormwater runoff, according to the release.

"PENNVEST initiated its new fiscal year of funding by approving loans and grants for a wide variety of water quality improvement projects in all corners of the commonwealth," Wolf said. "These projects and the environmental, economic development and public health benefits that they create will further our collective goal of a cleaner and safer place for our families to enjoy as well as my vision for a better Pennsylvania, both now and for years to come."