



Center for Public
Representation

December 18, 2019

Statement on the Fifth Circuit's Ruling in *Texas v. US*

The Center for Public Representation is extremely concerned by today's decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit that puts the healthcare of tens of millions of people at risk. The Court ruled that the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is unconstitutional and sent it back in the hands of the district court judge – who has already once struck down the entire ACA as unconstitutional – to decide whether to invalidate the entire law.

The ACA's protections are critical to the health and wellbeing of millions of disabled Americans, and its repeal would disproportionately harm them, reversing years of progress. Adequate health coverage is often not only a lifeline, but critical to community integration for people with disabilities. The ACA's Essential Health Benefits, protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and Medicaid expansion, among other provisions, have tremendously improved access to healthcare that actually meets the needs of people with disabilities.

While the ACA remains the law of the land, its future is uncertain. Earlier this year, a coalition of disability organizations, including CPR, filed an [amicus brief](#) explaining the importance of the ACA for people with disabilities. We will continue our efforts to protect the ACA and remain committed to defending and advancing access to healthcare for people with disabilities.

To learn more about the lawsuit and its potential impact on people with disabilities, please visit [our website](#).