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**Leaders in High-Risk Pregnancy Issue Statement on ACA Replacement Legislation**  
*Physicians Underscore the Importance of Maternity Care Coverage*

**WASHINGTON, DC, March 8, 2017**— Alfred Abuhamad, MD, President of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM), today issued the following statement related to the House Republican alternative to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which was introduced on Monday, March 6:

“On behalf of The Society, I want to reiterate the importance of essential healthcare services for women and infants.

The ACA provides coverage and access to critical services that promote the health of millions of women before, during, and after pregnancy. As physicians caring for women with high-risk, complicated pregnancies, we urge Congress to preserve access to maternity care coverage in any health policy package that may replace the ACA.

Healthy outcomes for women and infants are dependent upon coverage that is:

- Affordable regardless of income or health status, without arbitrary limits.
- Comprehensive with access to the full range of appropriate health care providers and services for both the woman and the fetus.
- Continuous and consistent with no gaps in coverage.
- Based on the acuity of the medical condition or status.

The Society issued detailed [maternity care principles](#) in January 2017, and we stand ready to work with Members of Congress and the Administration to ensure the best possible outcomes for women and infants.”

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**About SMFM**

The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (est. 1977) is the premiere membership organization for obstetricians/gynecologists who have additional formal education and training in maternal-fetal medicine. The Society is devoted to reducing high-risk pregnancy complications by sharing expertise through continuing education to its 2,000 members on the latest pregnancy assessment and treatment methods. It also serves as an advocate for

improving public policy, and expanding research funding and opportunities for maternal-fetal medicine. The group hosts an annual meeting in which groundbreaking new ideas and research in the area of maternal-fetal medicine are shared and discussed. For more information, visit [www.smfm.org](http://www.smfm.org).