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House Republicans Raid Prevention Fund ***Health Prevention Used to Pay for Student Loan Fix***

This afternoon, despite a [veto threat](#) from the White House, the House of Representatives [voted](#) 215 to 195 to approve legislation that would extend the interest rate paid on federal student loans. The legislation was paid for by cutting funding to the Prevention and Public Health Fund created by the Affordable Care Act.

The Senate will, after a brief recess next week, take up its version of legislation to extend the interest rate on federal student loans, though the Prevention Fund is not a pay-for in the Senate bill as it is paid for with other controversial measures including a tax increase on certain business entities. During the debate, Republicans plan to push for a vote on their alternative proposal that would, instead, use cutting funds to the Prevention and Public Health Fund to pay for the initiative. This approach, which is similar to the one taken by House Republicans, [has been decried by Senate Majority Leader Reid](#) and other Senate Democrats for “forcing Democrats to choose between helping students afford college tuition or forcing women to go without mammograms.”

The Campaign to End Obesity is disappointed with the action taken this afternoon by the House of Representatives as they represent another short-sighted policy approach that will, unfortunately, deny millions of Americans access to services to prevent chronic diseases – including obesity.

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About the Campaign to End Obesity

The effects of the nation’s obesity epidemic are immense: taxpayers, businesses, communities and individuals spend hundreds of billions of dollars each year due to obesity, including an estimated \$168 billion in medical costs. By bringing together leaders from across industry, academia and public health with policymakers and their advisors, the Campaign to End Obesity provides the information and guidance that decision-makers need to make the changes necessary to reverse one of the nation’s costliest and most prevalent diseases.