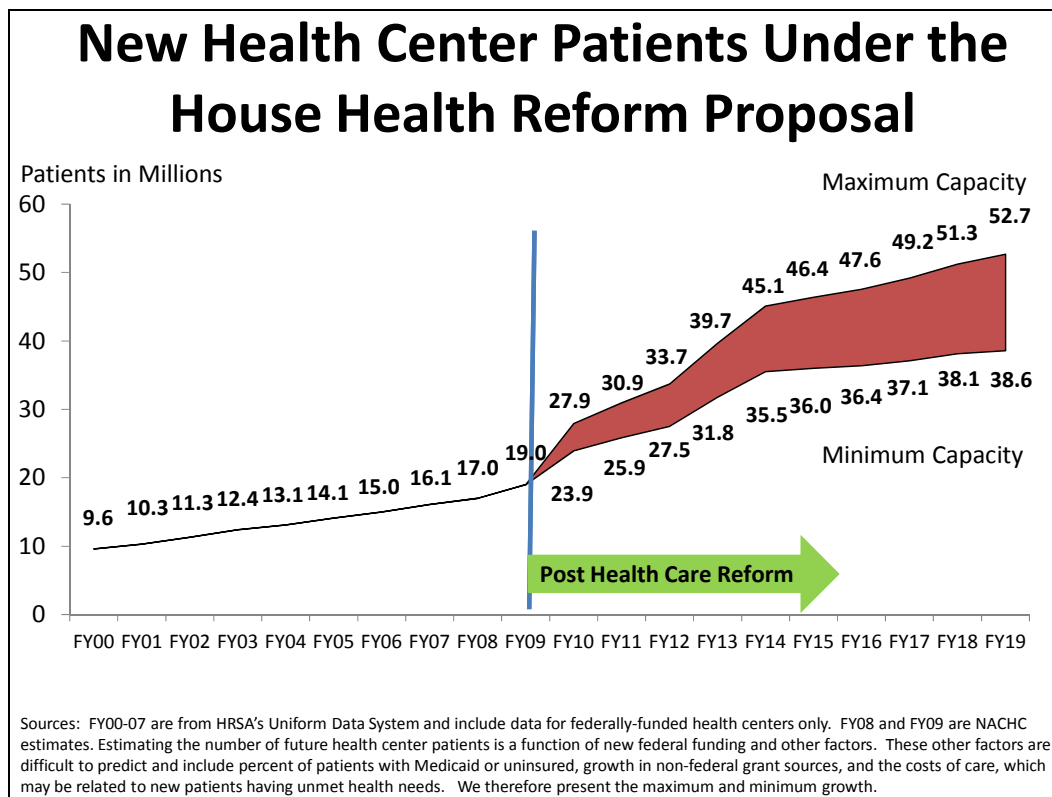


## HOUSE HEALTH REFORM PROPOSAL AND HEALTH CENTERS: *EXPANDING ACCESS TO CARE AND BRINGING DOWN COSTS*

**America's Affordable Health Choices Act**, the health care reform package introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, would provide substantial new funding for the Health Centers Program between now and 2019. Directed out of a new Public Health Investment Trust Fund, these resources would go toward bringing **new health centers** to communities in need, **enhancing capacity at existing centers** and ensuring that every health center offers **comprehensive services**. Combined with other changes proposed in the House health reform legislation, including Medicaid expansions, creation of new Health Insurance Exchanges, mandates on employers and individuals to provide and purchase coverage, these resources will help turn the promise of increased coverage into the reality of expanded care for up to **53 million people within 10 years**.



### ECONOMIC IMPACT AND COST SAVINGS TO THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

In 2008, NACHC and the Robert Graham Center released *ACCESS Granted: The Primary Care Payoff*, a report examining the substantial economic benefit and systemic cost savings of health center expansion. Under the House proposal, we estimate that in 2019:

- Up to **\$80 billion in overall health care costs would be saved** as more patients are seen in health centers, due to reduced hospitalization rates and emergency room use, and lower third-party insurance expenditures.
- Up to **\$77.6 billion of economic activity** would be created for some of the hardest hit communities in the nation.
- As many as 884,000 **high-quality jobs** would be retained or created.