

# DPNM Recognizes the 16th Anniversary of the Affordable Care Act

## *New York Times: NM An ACA Success Story*

Albuquerque- Today marks the sixteenth anniversary of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) being signed into law by President Barack Obama. However, because of Donald Trump and congressional Republicans' refusal to extend ACA premium tax credits, thousands of families have dropped their health insurance after seeing their premiums skyrocket by an average of 114%, creating a healthcare affordability crisis across the United States.

However, thanks to Democrats, New Mexico has a different story to tell than most states. The [New York Times recently highlighted New Mexico as an “Obamacare Success Story”](#) for our state’s record enrollment and Democrats’ work to protect coverage, despite Republican cuts. Because state Democrats stepped up, **New Mexico is the only state in the nation that is fully funding ACA credits that Washington Republicans let expire.**

After Trump signed the “Big Beautiful Bill” into law, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham called a [special legislative session](#) in October of last year, providing funding to make up for the gap for New Mexicans who would have been impacted by D.C. Republicans letting ACA premium tax credits expire. Then, in the [2026 30-day legislative session](#), Democrats passed full funding for the Healthcare Affordability Fund, ensuring New Mexicans who rely on these tax credits will not lose their coverage, while also providing additional relief for other federal cuts to healthcare. These proactive responses to the “Big Beautiful Bill” saved roughly [65,000 New Mexicans](#) from losing the ACA coverage they rely on.

*The Democratic Party of New Mexico released the following statement recognizing sixteen years of the Affordable Care Act:*

“Sixteen years after the Affordable Care Act was signed into law, New Mexico is a national example not just of mitigating the damage done by Trump and the GOP’s did to healthcare, but actually increasing Affordable Care Act enrollment in our state. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and our state legislators stepped up over the last year to make sure that New Mexicans won’t have to suffer without care because of Republican cuts. This is why the [New York Times recognized New Mexico](#) as the leader in crafting policy to counter Trump’s healthcare cuts and ensuring our families can get the quality, affordable healthcare that we deserve.

"Trump's 'Big Beautiful Bill' did unprecedented damage to healthcare accessibility across America. New Mexico Democrats sympathize with the Americans in red states whose leaders let them suffer without healthcare. Fortunately, in New Mexico, we have leaders who put the health of our people over tax breaks for billionaires."

Support for the ACA is at an all-time high with [57 percent approval](#), as Independents' approval jumped ten points from 2024 to 2025. [Two-thirds of Americans say Congress did the wrong thing](#) by not extending enhanced ACA subsidies.

On top of letting ACA subsidies expire, Trump and Republicans also slashed \$1 trillion from Medicaid, putting over 300 rural hospitals at risk of closure ([15 in New Mexico alone](#)) and ripping health care away from approximately 16 million people. It's no wonder Americans don't trust Republicans to protect their healthcare.