Attached please find a letter sent from Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell requesting that he and the Republican Conference “attend an All-Senators meeting next week on the topic of health care.” The letter states that “now, more than ever, Republicans and Democrats need to come together to find solutions to America’s health care challenges.” The letter adds that Minority Leader Schumer is “dismayed at reports” that there will be no public hearings on proposed changes to the American health care system, and he requests that all Senators come together to “find a way to make health care more affordable and accessible in the United States.” The related press release is copied below:

For Immediate Release

Date: June 16, 2017

In New Letter to Leader McConnell, Schumer Invites Entire Republican Conference To Bipartisan All-Senators Meeting On Health Care

Dismayed by GOP’s Plans To Not Hold Public Hearings On A Bill That Would Impact 1/6 Of The Economy And Millions Of Americans’ Lives, Schumer Invites McConnell, All Republican Senators to Meet in Old Senate Chamber to Hear Their Plan & Discuss How to Make Health Care More Affordable & Accessible in U.S.
Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer sent a new letter to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell today inviting him and the entire Republican Conference to a bipartisan, all-senators meeting on health care. Senate Democrats and the American people have been relying on media reports to glean what is in the new version of the Republican health care bill, which is being drafted behind closed doors and remains a secret. Dismayed at the reports that the GOP does not plan to hold public hearings on legislation that would affect one-sixth of the economy and millions of Americans, Schumer called for a bipartisan meeting on the topic. He noted that as members of the world’s greatest deliberative body, Senators should all support an open and robust debate, and added that now, more than ever, Democrats and Republicans alike must come together to find solutions to America’s challenges, including how to make health care more affordable and accessible in the United States.

Text of Leader Schumer’s letter can be found below and here.

Dear Majority Leader McConnell,

On behalf of my caucus, I write to invite you and the Republican Conference to an All-Senators meeting next week on the topic of health care. Now, more than ever, Republicans and Democrats need to come together to find solutions to America’s challenges.

Our health care system affects every single American and one-sixth of our economy. We believe we all owe it to our constituents to meet to discuss your potential legislation that would profoundly impact so many American lives.

The U.S. Senate has long been considered the world’s greatest deliberative body and, as members of that body, we should each support open and robust debate. That is why we are dismayed at the reports that there will be no public hearings on your proposed changes to the American health care system.
Please accept our invitation to sit down together in the old Senate Chamber so we can hear your plans and discuss how to make health care more affordable and accessible in the United States.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader

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Phone: (202) 861-3200
Fax: (202) 861-3219
June 15, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol, S-230
Washington DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the Senate Democratic Caucus, I write to request that you and the Republican Conference attend an All-Senators meeting next week on the topic of health care. Now, more than ever, Republicans and Democrats need to come together to find solutions to America’s challenges.

Our health care system affects every single American and one-sixth of our economy. We believe we all owe it to our constituents to pursue any bipartisan potential legislation because it profoundly impacts so many American lives.

The U.S. Senate has long been considered the world’s greatest deliberative body and, as members of that body, we should each support open and robust debate. That is why we are dismayed at the reports that there will be no public hearings on your proposed changes to the American health care system.

Please accept our invitation to sit down together in the old Senate Chamber to find a way to make health care more affordable and accessible in the United States.

Sincerely,

CHARLES E. SCHUMER
United States Senator