

Proclamation



GET COVERED, STAY COVERED MONTHS

NOVEMBER 1, 2017 - JANUARY 31, 2018

WHEREAS, In Washington, DC, we know that health care is a right—not a luxury, and are doing everything we can to protect that right; and

WHEREAS, As a result of the District’s early decision to embrace the Affordable Care Act, expand eligibility for Medicaid beyond the federal requirement, and establish a state-based exchange that meets the needs of all Washingtonians, Washington, DC is a national leader in expanding access to health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Since DC Health Link debuted, we have cut our uninsured rate in half. Today, approximately 18,000 residents are covered through the DC Health Link individual marketplace and more than 76,000 people are covered through its small business marketplace; and

WHEREAS, DCHealthLink.com helps Washingtonians—especially our most vulnerable—shop for, compare, and enroll in affordable, high-quality health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Although the federal government has shortened the enrollment period to six weeks, in Washington, DC, we remain committed to giving all residents time to shop around and sign up, so our enrollment period will remain open for three months; and

WHEREAS, While others may seek to move us backward, here in our nation’s capital, we will continue moving forward toward universal coverage and protecting and honoring a signature legacy of President Barack Obama; and

WHEREAS, The healthcare marketplace is “alive and well” in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, While we are proud to have one of the lowest uninsured rates in the country with more than 96 percent of DC residents insured, we must press on to get every resident covered:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim the three month period between November 1, 2017 - January 31, 2018 as **GET COVERED, STAY COVERED MONTHS** in Washington, DC, and urge our residents to visit DCHealthLink.com to cover themselves and their families.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Muriel Bowser". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

