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JoAnn Volk, M.A., is a research professor, founder, and co-director of the Center on Health Insurance Reforms (CHIR) at Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy. At CHIR, she conducts research and publishes issue briefs and blog posts on state and federal regulation and legislation governing private health insurance, including the Affordable Care Act, health insurance marketplaces and mental health parity. She also provides expertise and technical support to state and federal policymakers, insurance regulators, consumer and patient organizations and other stakeholders on private health insurance. From 2001 to 2010, Ms. Volk represented the AFL-CIO before Congress and the Administration on a broad range of health care issues, including Medicare and health care reform. She has also conducted health policy research at Abt Associates, focusing on state-based efforts to cover the uninsured, and served as an aide to the Speaker of the New York State Assembly. JoAnn holds an M.A. in policy studies from Johns Hopkins University, with a concentration in health policy, and a B.A. from Franklin and Marshall College.