



ADVANCING FAITH, FAMILY AND FREEDOM

September 27, 2013

Senator
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of Family Research Council (FRC) and the families we represent, I urge you to vote against the Reid Amendment (S.A. 1974) to the Continuing Resolution (H.J.Res 59) that would replace the House passed CR which would remove funding for the Affordable Care Act (ACA). FRC will score the Reid Amendment to the CR that removes this important defunding provision.

The President's unworkable and unaffordable healthcare law will ration health care as well as subsidize coverage that includes elective abortion and that violates citizens' rights to religious freedom in their health plans. Barring immediate action by Congress, open enrollment will begin October 1 and the bill's IRS enforced mandates will go into effect January 1, 2014. Time is running out; the Senate must act now to defund the implementation of the ACA.

Health and Human Services has missed half of its self-imposed implementation deadlines. Most recently, the deadline for the employer mandate was delayed after businesses warned they would need to downsize their workforce, dump their health care coverage or cut hours to comply with the laws onerous requirements. These delays are emblematic of the structural problems with the ACA. Americans, including Members of Congress and their staff, are wary of the health care law's costs and impacts on coverage. Moreover, the Office of Personnel Management has cut a special deal for Congressional employees to help ease them onto the ACA's exchanges but, unsurprisingly, similar accommodations have not been made for the American public.

Even if the law was ready for primetime, which it clearly is not, its implementation will only guarantee the creation of the Independent Payment Advisory Board, an unelected body which will effectively reduce costs through government rationing. The ACA will also usher in new federal subsidies for abortion coverage in the private plans and also in the multi-state plans. Lastly, the "HHS mandate" imposes severe requirements on religious employers that object to including certain benefits in their health care coverage. While defunding does not fix all of the ACA problems on mandates, it is important to prevent many of the laws egregious provisions from being implemented.

Again, we urge you to vote against the Reid Amendment (S.A. 1974) that would replace the House passed bill defunding the ACA. FRC will score against the vote on amendment.

Sincerely,

David Christensen
Vice President for Government Affairs