



Airing Out

As ObamaCare Is Implemented, Democrats Are Airing Out Their Grievances To Distance Themselves From The Fallout

MORE DEMOCRATS ARE COMING OUT OF THE WOODWORK TO DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF OBAMACARE

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR)

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) Said That Increasing Premiums Will Be A Cause For Concern To The Democrat-Led Senate. ““There is reason to be very concerned about what's going to happen with young people. If their (insurance) premiums shoot up, I can tell you, that is going to wash into the United States Senate in a hurry,” said Senator Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat.” (David Morgan, “ObamaCare Is On The Horizon, But Will Enough People Sign Up?” [Reuters](#), 5/5/13)

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY)

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) Conceded That ObamaCare Will Be Partly Responsible For Higher Health Insurance Rates. CHUCK SCHUMER: “Our insurance department is empowered to protect families and we're going to watch them like a hawk to make sure they do. Because if they don't, these rates could go through the roof.” WHEC's RAY LEVATO: “Is it because of ObamaCare?” SCHUMER: “It's in part because of ObamaCare but health care costs have been going up by double digits for years and years and years.” ([WHEC](#), 5/2/13)

Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD)

Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) Is Concerned About ObamaCare's Impact On Health Care Premiums As Health Insurers In Maryland Have Filed Rate Increases Averaging 25 Percent. “Senator Benjamin L. Cardin, Democrat of Maryland, said he told White House officials on Thursday that he was concerned about big rate increases being sought by the largest health insurer in his state. The company, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, has sought increases averaging 25 percent for individual insurance policies that will be sold in the state insurance exchange, and it is seeking increases of about 15 percent for small businesses. The company said the higher premiums reflected costs of complying with the new law.” (Robert Pear, “Democratic Senators Tell White House Of Concerns About Health Care Law Rollout,” [The New York Times](#), 4/26/13)

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)

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Facing Reelection In 2014, Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) Told The White House That Small Businesses In Her State Are Clueless In Complying With ObamaCare. “Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Democrat of New Hampshire, who is up for re-election next year, said, ‘We are hearing from a lot of small businesses in New Hampshire that do not know how to comply with the law.’” (Robert Pear, “Democratic Senators Tell White House Of Concerns About Health Care Law Rollout,” [The New York Times](#), 4/26/13)

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV)

Senate Majority Harry Reid (D-NV) Shares His Colleagues’ Concerns That ObamaCare Could Be A “Train Wreck.” “Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) says he shares colleagues’ concerns that the Affordable Care Act could become a ‘train wreck’ if it’s not implemented properly.” (Alexander Bolton, “Reid: More Funding Needed To Prevent ObamaCare From Becoming ‘Train Wreck,’” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 5/1/13)

- **Senator Reid (D-NV) Agreed With Senator Max Baucus That ObamaCare Could Be A “Train Wreck” If ObamaCare Implementation Stumbles.** “‘Max said unless we implement this properly it’s going to be a train wreck, and I agree with him,’ Reid said, echoing a warning delivered last month by Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.).” (Alexander Bolton, “Reid: More Funding Needed To Prevent ObamaCare From Becoming ‘Train Wreck,’” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 5/1/13)

Senator Max Baucus (D-MT)

Democrat Senator Max Baucus (D-MT): “I Just See A Huge Train Wreck Coming Down.” MAX BAUCUS: “I just see a huge train wreck coming down, you and I have discussed this many times, and I don’t see any results yet.” (Committee On Finance, U.S. Senate, [Hearing](#), 4/17/13)

Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV)

Democrat Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) Said ObamaCare Was “Probably The Most Complex Piece Of Legislation Ever Passed” And That “Up To This Point It Is Just Beyond Comprehension.” JAY ROCKEFELLER: “I believe that the Affordable Care Act is probably the most complex piece of legislation ever passed by the United States Congress. Tax reform obviously has been huge too, but up to this point it is just beyond comprehension.” (Committee On Finance, U.S. Senate, [Hearing](#), 4/9/13)

Congressman Ami Berra (D-CA)

Representative Ami Berra (D-CA) Has Been “Very Concerned” With ObamaCare Increasing The Costs Of Health Care. “‘I’m moderately to very concerned,’ Berra said. ‘I have been consistently concerned about the cost of care going up.’” (Dan Morain, “Ami Berra Dings Obama Dings Obama Administration For Rollout Of Affordable Care Act,” [The Sacramento Bee’s The Swarm](#), 5/1/13)

Democrat Congressional Candidate Elizabeth Colbert Busch

Democrat Candidate Elizabeth Colbert Busch Called ObamaCare “Extremely Problematic.” “Colbert Busch swung back, calling herself a moderate-minded pragmatist who is independent from Democratic leaders. She called President Barack Obama’s health care bill ‘extremely problematic’ and said she would oppose many forms of gun control.” (Alex Isenstadt, “Elizabeth Colbert Busch Attacks Mark Sanford In Debate Slugfest,” [Politico](#), 4/29/13)

DEMOCRATS FEAR THAT OBAMACARE’S “GLITCHES AND BUMPS” ARE ENOUGH TO SINK THEIR ELECTORAL HOPES IN 2014 AND BEYOND

As ObamaCare Continues To Be Implemented, Democrats Are Beginning To Envision ObamaCare Failing. “But with ‘Obamacare’ five months from show time, Democrats are worried about whether

enough Americans will sign up to make the sweeping healthcare overhaul a success - and what failure might mean for Congress heading into the 2016 presidential race.” (David Morgan, “ObamaCare Is On The Horizon, But Will Enough People Sign Up?” [Reuters](#), 5/5/13)

The “Political Consequences Are Significant” If ObamaCare Increases Premiums And Implementation Is Bungled. “And there are clear signs that if premiums go up, businesses are forced to change how they insure their employees, and implementation of the law is uneven, the potential for political consequences are significant.” (Josh Kraushaar, “Obama’s Legacy: “A Health Care Law That Hurts His Party,” [National Journal](#), 5/2/13)

- **If ObamaCare Implementation Stumbles And “Insurance Rates Rise Sharply,” ObamaCare Could Be A Big Enough Issue That It Sinks Senate Democrats.** “While Obama and his administration say they are working nonstop on reform, analysts believe a poor performance could make the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act a big enough campaign issue in 2014 to jeopardize Democratic control of the Senate - particularly if insurance costs rise sharply.” (David Morgan, “ObamaCare Is On The Horizon, But Will Enough People Sign Up?” [Reuters](#), 5/5/13)
- **It Will Be Nearly Impossible For Democrats To Take Back The House “If The Implementation Of ObamaCare Is Rocky.”** “To win back the House, Democrats must pick up 17 seats. That will be all but impossible if the implementation of ObamaCare is rocky.” (Elise Viebeck, “Botched ObamaCare Rollout Tops Democratic Fears For 2014 Election,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 5/1/13)

National Journal Headline: “Obama’s Legacy: A Health Care Law That Hurts His Party.” (Josh Kraushaar, “Obama’s Legacy: “A Health Care Law That Hurts His Party,” [National Journal](#), 5/2/13)

- **“Democrats Own The Issue, And The Headwinds Coming With It In Future Elections.”** “Like Republicans with Iraq, Democrats own the issue, and the headwinds coming with it in future elections.” (Josh Kraushaar, “Obama’s Legacy: “A Health Care Law That Hurts His Party,” [National Journal](#), 5/2/13)