



Fireable Offense

For Her Disastrous Rollout Of ObamaCare, The Obama Administration Should Rid Itself Of Kathleen Sebelius

FORMER OBAMA PRESS SECRETARY ROBERT GIBBS SUGGESTED FIRING OFFICIALS FOR THE OBAMACARE ROLLOUT

Former Obama Press Secretary Robert Gibbs: "I Hope They Fire Some People That Were In Charge Of Making Sure This Thing Was Supposed To Work." GIBBS: "But, boy, if they don't get these glitches figured out fast, people aren't going to come back for visits 15 through 18. And I will say this. I hope they are working day and night to get this done. And when they get it fixed, I hope they fire some people that were in charge of making sure this thing was supposed to work. We knew there were going to be some glitches. But these were glitches that go, quite frankly, way beyond the pale of what should be expected." (MSNBC's "Now With Alex Wagner," [MSNBC](#), 10/14/13)

SEBELIUS SPENT OVER \$400 MILLION TO PREPARE FOR OBAMACARE'S LAUNCH

HHS Spent "More Than \$400 Million" On The ObamaCare Website That "Has Thwarted The Efforts Of Millions To Simply Log In." "For the past 12 days, a system costing more than \$400 million and billed as a one-stop click-and-go hub for citizens seeking health insurance has thwarted the efforts of millions to simply log in." (Robert Pear, Sharon Lafraniere, and Ian Austen, "From The Start, Signs Of Trouble At Health Portal," [The New York Times](#), 10/13/13)

Sebelius Was Aware That The ObamaCare Exchanges Wouldn't Be Ready Months In Advance

"[HHS] Senior Officials Expressed Doubts That The Computer Systems For The Federal Exchange Would Be Ready On Time." "Confidential progress reports from the Health and Human Services Department show that senior officials repeatedly expressed doubts that the computer systems for the federal exchange would be ready on time, blaming delayed regulations, a lack of resources and other factors." (Robert Pear, Sharon Lafraniere, and Ian Austen, "From The Start, Signs Of Trouble At Health Portal," [The New York Times](#), 10/13/13)

- **"Democratic Allies Repeatedly Warned The Obama Administration In Recent Months That The New Federal Health-Insurance Exchange Had Significant Problems."** (Juliet Eilperin, Amy Goldstein, and Sandhya Somashekar, "Many Remain Locked Out Of Federal Health-Care Web Site," [The Washington Post](#), 10/9/13)

Earlier This Year, Industry And Government Officials Foresaw "A Train Wreck." "By early this year, people inside and outside the federal bureaucracy were raising red flags. 'We foresee a train wreck,' an insurance executive working on information technology said in a February interview. 'We don't have the I.T. specifications. The level of angst in health plans is growing by leaps and bounds. The political people

in the administration do not understand how far behind they are.” (Robert Pear, Sharon Lafraniere, and Ian Austen, “From The Start, Signs Of Trouble At Health Portal,” [The New York Times](#), 10/13/13)

Sebelius Had Promised That ObamaCare Would Be Ready, But That Clearly Has Not Been The Case

HHS Officials And The Obama White House Refused To Even Consider Delaying ObamaCare’s Exchanges. “But Mr. Chao’s superiors at the Department of Health and Human Services told him, in effect, that failure was not an option, according to people who have spoken with him. Nor was rolling out the system in stages or on a smaller scale, as companies like Google typically do so that problems can more easily and quietly be fixed. Former government officials say the White House, which was calling the shots, feared that any backtracking would further embolden Republican critics who were trying to repeal the health care law.” (Robert Pear, Sharon Lafraniere, and Ian Austen, “From The Start, Signs Of Trouble At Health Portal,” [The New York Times](#), 10/13/13)

Sebelius Promised That The Exchanges Would Be Ready To Open On October 1 In Both English And Spanish. SEBELIUS: “And I want to be clear, we are ready to go on October 1st. So this week, we had another big step forward when we launched our two new and improved websites, healthcare.gov, the English version and (inaudible), the Spanish version. Online homes of the marketplace and they’re up; and running.” (Kathleen Sebelius, News Conference On The Affordable Care Act, 6/26/13)

- **The ObamaCare Exchanges Continued To Experience “Technical Problems In Their Second Day Of Operation.”** “The new online health insurance exchanges continued to experience heavy traffic and technical problems in their second day of operation Wednesday, as officials said the systems were still drawing more users than they had anticipated.” (Richard Perez-Pena, Abby Goodnough, and Robert Pear, “Problems Persist On Second Day Of Insurance Markets,” [The New York Times](#), 10/2/13)
- **“The Administration Told Hispanic Groups That The Spanish-Language Version Of Its Healthcare.Gov Website Will Not Be Ready To Handle Enrollments For A Few Weeks.”** “Separately, the administration told Hispanic groups that the Spanish-language version of its healthcare.gov website will be not be ready to handle enrollments for a few weeks. An estimated 10 million Latinos are eligible for coverage.” (Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, “Health Law Online Sign-Up Delayed For Small Firms,” [The Associated Press](#), 9/26/13)

HHS SECRETARY KATHLEEN SEBELIUS HAS HAD OVER THREE YEARS TO NOT EMBARRASS OBAMA

ObamaCare Was Signed Into Law On March 23, 2010. (“[Public Law 111-148](#) – Patient Protection And Affordable Care Act,” Enacted 3/23/10)

Up Until The Last Minute, Federal Officials Were Scrambling To Get ObamaCare Up And Running On October 1

Across The Country, Officials Have Issued Warnings That The New Insurance Exchanges “Will Not Be Fully Operational For Weeks Or Even Months.” “Yet across the country, officials are issuing warnings that despite fevered efforts, their new insurance exchanges — online markets where people can shop for health plans and see if they qualify for federal subsidies — will not be fully operational for weeks or even months.” (Abby Goodnough, “Health Insurance Exchanges Scramble To Be Ready As Opening Day Nears,” [The New York Times](#), 9/30/13)

Sebelius’s Failure To Manage Has “Deeply Embarrassed” Obama

“Managerial” Issues Partly Led To The Problems Experienced By The ObamaCare Exchange.

“Interviews with two dozen contractors, current and former government officials, insurance executives and consumer advocates, as well as an examination of confidential administration documents, point to a series of missteps — financial, technical and managerial — that led to the troubles.” (Robert Pear, Sharon Lafraniere, and Ian Austen, “From The Start, Signs Of Trouble At Health Portal,” [The New York Times](#), 10/13/13)

- **Consumers Continue To Have Trouble Accessing The ObamaCare Exchange.** “A week after the federal Web site opened, technical problems continued to plague the system, and on Tuesday people were locked out until 10 a.m., although some applicants were able to sign up as the day went on. Officials said they were working 24 hours a day to improve the system and that they were confident it would soon be able to meet the demand. They added that there was ample time to correct the site to allow consumers to get insured by Jan. 1.” (Juliet Eilperin, Amy Goldstein, and Sandhya Somashekar, “Many Remain Locked Out Of Federal Health-Care Web Site,” [The Washington Post](#), 10/9/13)

ObamaCare’s Launch “Has Deeply Embarrassed The White House.” “The growing national outcry has deeply embarrassed the White House, which has refused to say how many people have enrolled through the federal exchange.” (Robert Pear, Sharon Lafraniere, and Ian Austen, “From The Start, Signs Of Trouble At Health Portal,” [The New York Times](#), 10/13/13)

- **Former Obama Press Secretary Robert Gibbs: “Let’s Just Say This Is Excruciatingly Embarrassing For The White House And For The Department Of Health And Human Services.”** (MSNBC’s “Now With Alex Wagner,” [MSNBC](#), 10/14/13)

Reflecting Negatively On Obama’s Domestic Legacy. “The stakes for the president are high. The ultimate success of the law, and in turn his domestic legacy, depends on how well the insurance marketplaces operate, and whether enough young Americans enroll for coverage.” (Jackie Calmes, “New Worries For Democrats On Health Law,” [The New York Times](#), 5/6/13)

SEBELIUS MADE THE COMPARISON TO APPLE PRODUCT ROLLOUTS -- THE OBAMACARE ROLLOUT IS NOTHING LIKE APPLE

Health And Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius: “No One Is Calling On Apple To Not Sell Devices For A Year Or To Get Out Of The Business Because The Whole Thing Is A Failure.” “‘No one is calling on Apple to not sell devices for a year or to get out of the business because the whole thing is a failure,’ she said. ‘Everyone just assumes there’s a problem, they’ll fix it, let’s move on. . . . Hopefully, they’ll give us the same slack as they give Apple.’” (Amy Goldstein, Lena H. Sun, And Sandya Somashekar, “Rush Of Interest Continues On Insurance Web Sites,” [The Washington Post](#), 10/12/13)

Apple Has Released 4 New iPhone And 3 New iPad Models In The Time Sebelius Has Had To Implement ObamaCare

September 10, 2013: Apple Introduced The iPhone 5s. “Apple today announced iPhone 5s, the most forward-thinking iPhone yet, featuring an all-new A7 chip, making iPhone 5s the world’s first smartphone with 64-bit desktop-class architecture for blazing fast performance in the palm of your hand.” (Press Release, “Apple Introduces iPhone 5S,” [Apple](#), 9/10/13)

October 23, 2012: Apple Introduced The iPad Mini. “Apple today introduced iPad mini, a completely new iPad design that is 23 percent thinner and 53 percent lighter than the third generation iPad.” (Press Release, “Apple Introduces iPad Mini,” [Apple](#), 10/23/12)

September 12, 2012: Apple Introduced The iPhone 5. “Apple today announced iPhone 5, the thinnest and lightest iPhone ever, completely redesigned to feature a stunning new 4-inch Retina display; an

Apple-designed A6 chip for blazing fast performance; and ultrafast wireless technology—all while delivering even better battery life.” (Press Release, “Apple Introduces iPhone 5,” [Apple](#), 9/12/12)

March 7, 2012: Apple Introduced The iPad 3. “Apple today introduced the new iPad, the third generation of its category defining mobile device, featuring a stunning new Retina display, Apple’s new A5X chip with quad-core graphics and a 5 megapixel iSight camera with advanced optics for capturing amazing photos and 1080p HD video.” (Press Release, “Apple Launches New iPad,” [Apple](#), 3/7/12)

October 4, 2011: Apple Introduced The iPhone 4S. “Apple today announced iPhone 4S, the most amazing iPhone yet, packed with incredible new features including Apple’s dual-core A5 chip for blazing fast performance and stunning graphics; an all new camera with advanced optics; full 1080p HD resolution video recording; and Siri, an intelligent assistant that helps you get things done just by asking.” (Press Release, “Apple Launches iPhone 4S, iOS 5 & iCloud,” [Apple](#), 10/4/11)

March 2, 2011: Apple Introduced The iPad 2. “Apple today introduced iPad 2, the next generation of its magical device for browsing the web, reading and sending email, enjoying photos, watching videos, listening to music, playing games, reading ebooks and much more.” (Press Release, “Apple Launches iPad2,” [Apple](#), 3/2/11)

June 7, 2010: Apple Introduced The iPhone 4. “Apple today presented the new iPhone 4 featuring FaceTime, which makes the dream of video calling a reality, and Apple’s stunning new Retina display, the highest resolution display ever built into a phone, resulting in super crisp text, images and video.” (Press Release, “Apple Presents iPhone 4,” [Apple](#), 6/7/10)