



# Not Looking Forward To 2014

*As Obama Has Warned Americans To Brace For Bumps, The Democrats' Goal For 2014 May Already Be Sunk*

## OBAMA ADMITTED THAT OBAMACARE WILL EXPERIENCE "GLITCHES AND BUMPS"

**Obama Acknowledged That ObamaCare Faces A Rickety Rollout In The Coming Months.** "Amid signs of early snags in the federal health law, President Barack Obama on Tuesday acknowledged it could face a rocky rollout this fall but said officials are racing to get the new insurance system ready in time."

(Louise Radnofsky, "Obama Sees 'Bumps' For Health Law," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 5/1/13)

- **At Yesterday's Press Briefing, Obama Said That ObamaCare Will Have "Glitches And Bumps" No Matter How Perfectly The Law Is Implemented.** OBAMA: "It's still a big undertaking and what we're doing is making sure that every single day, we are constantly trying to hit our marks so that it will be in place. The last point I'll make, even if we do everything perfectly, there will still be glitches and bumps, and there will be stories that can be written that says, 'oh, look, this thing's not working the way it's supposed to and this happened and that happened,' and that's pretty much true of every government program that's ever been set up." (Barack Obama, [Press Briefing](#), Washington, D.C., 4/30/13)

## OBAMACARE'S IMPLEMENTATION COULD SINK OBAMA'S SECOND TERM AS WELL AS CRUSH DEMOCRAT HOPES FOR BIG GAINS IN 2014

**"The Stakes Are High For The Administration Since The Outcome Of Mr. Obama's Signature Domestic-Policy Legislation Could Shape The Course Of His Second Term."** (Louise Radnofsky, "Obama Sees 'Bumps' For Health Law," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 5/1/13)

**"Anxious Democrats Fear A Botched Implementation Of ObamaCare Could Dash Their Hopes Of Controlling The House And Senate For President Obama's Last Two Years In Office."** (Elise Viebeck, "Botched ObamaCare Rollout Tops Democratic Fears For 2014 Election," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 5/1/13)

- **With ObamaCare Implementation Stumbles, It Will Be Nearly Impossible For Democrats To Take Back The House.** "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)

*A Recent Poll Found That Support For ObamaCare Is Nearing An All-Time Low*

**New Kaiser Family Foundation Poll Finds That ObamaCare “Scraped The Nadir Of Its Long-Term Public Support This Month.”** “The health law scraped the nadir of its long-term public support this month — just 35 percent of respondents to a Kaiser Family Foundation poll said they support the law, compared to 40 percent who oppose it and 24 percent who shrugged when asked.” (Kyle Cheney, *Politico’s Pulse*, 4/30/13)

**Only 35 Percent Of Americans Have A Favorable View Of ObamaCare.** “On Tuesday, a Kaiser Family Foundation poll showed just 35 percent of Americans hold a favorable view of the law, right as the administration is planning to roll it out.” (Alex Isenstadt, “Elizabeth Colbert Busch Attacks Mark Sanford In Debate Slugfest,” *Politico*, 4/29/13)

- **“The Survey Showed Public Opinion On ObamaCare Is At Its Second-Lowest Rating In The Past Two Years.”** (Sarah Parnass, “ObamaCare’ Poll Finds 42% Of Americans Unaware It’s Law,” *ABC News*, 4/30/13)

**Kaiser Family Foundation: 40 Percent Of Americans Have An Unfavorable View Of ObamaCare.** “Overall, the public remains as divided as ever when it comes to their overall evaluations of the health law. This month, 35 percent report a favorable view, 40 percent an unfavorable view, and a full 24 percent report they have no opinion on the law, continuing a recent trend of particularly high shares not offering an opinion. Partisans remain quite divided, with a majority of Democrats in favor (57 percent) and most Republicans opposed (67 percent).” (*Kaiser Family Foundation*, 1,203 A, MoE 3%/4/15-20/13)

**ABC News’ Headline: “ObamaCare’ Poll Finds 42% of Americans Unaware It’s Law.”** (Sarah Parnass, “ObamaCare’ Poll Finds 42% Of Americans Unaware It’s Law,” *ABC News*, 4/30/13)

- **“Four In Ten Americans Are Unaware That ACA Is Still The Law Of The Land.”** “Four in ten Americans (42%) are unaware that the ACA is still the law of the land, including 12 percent who believe the law has been repealed by Congress, 7 percent who believe it has been overturned by the Supreme Court and 23 percent who say they don’t know enough to say what the status of the law is.” (*Kaiser Family Foundation*, 1,203 A, MoE 3%/4/15-20/13)

## **OBAMACARE’S UNPOPULARITY ALREADY HAS DEMOCRATS FRETTING ABOUT THEIR FUTURE PROSPECTS**

**“Delays In Implementing Popular Pieces Of ObamaCare Are Hurting It With Democrats.”** (Sam Baker, “ObamaCare Takes Friendly Fire,” *The Hill’s Health Watch*, 4/12/13)

**Democrats “Designed The Law So All Of The Core Pieces Go Into Effect In 2014,” Making A Successful ObamaCare’s Rollout That Much More Important To Their Campaigns.** “But the Democrats were always going to face this moment — they designed the law so all of the core pieces would go into effect in 2014, in a midterm election year. And they also needed a lot of complicated pieces to work together smoothly: health coverage for everyone who asks for it, new marketplaces of health insurance in every state, expanded Medicaid coverage for low-income people, and — of course — the hated individual mandate.” (David Nather and Darren Samuelsohn, “Democrats Fret Over ObamaCare As 2014 Looms,” *Politico*, 4/30/13)

- **Democrat Strategist Said The Democrats’ Problem On ObamaCare Goes Back To 2010, When ObamaCare “Was Passed By Muscling It Through A Then Democratic Controlled Congress.”** “Democratic strategist Chris Lehane says this all makes sense: midterm voters tend to be more moderate, and a lot of Democratic incumbents will be running in Republican-leaning states this year. But he also said the dilemma goes back to the strategy used to pass the health care law in the first place — ‘the hangover of the fact that health care reform was passed by muscling it through a then Democratic controlled Congress without necessarily building the broad public

support and positive brand.” (David Nather and Darren Samuelsohn, “Democrats Fret Over ObamaCare As 2014 Looms,” [Politico](#), 4/30/13)

**Politico’s Jim VandeHei: “I Think There’s A Lot Of Democrats That Are Very Worried.”** JIM

VANDEHEI: “There’s a new poll out this morning by the Kaiser Foundation that shows that support for the Obama health care law has dropped eight points. It’s now at about 34% and you saw in the debate last night, Colbert Busch where she was even distancing herself from the Obama health care law. I think there’s a lot of Democrats that are very worried that the implementation has been very difficult, has been unpopular, particularly for small business owners and that it could be very problematic for them in off-year elections, much like it was by the way in 2010.” (MSNBC’s [“Morning Joe,”](#) 4/30/13)

**Democrats Are Now Being More Vocal In Their Criticism Of ObamaCare.** “But they’re more willing to support certain changes to the law, such as repealing its medical device tax. And they’re more open to criticizing the implementation — particularly on an issue like choices for small businesses, which was a key part of the rhetorical push to pass healthcare reform in 2010.” (Sam Baker, “ObamaCare Takes Friendly Fire,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 4/12/13)

- **Facing Reelection In 2014, Senator Jeanne Sheehan (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)
- **Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) Has Said She Wouldn’t Support Obama’s CMS Nominee Due To Numerous Delays In ObamaCare’s Basic Health Plan.** “The Obama administration has also taken friendly fire from Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), a member of the Finance Committee who was heavily involved in crafting certain parts of the healthcare law that gave new options to state governments. Cantwell has said she would not support Marilyn Tavenner, Obama’s nominee to lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), because of her frustration with the delays in a provision known as the Basic Health Plan.” (Sam Baker, “ObamaCare Takes Friendly Fire,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 4/12/13)
- **Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) Is Concerned About ObamaCare’s Impact On Health Care Premiums As Health Insurers In Maryland Has 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)
- **Democrat Candidate Elizabeth Colbert Busch Called ObamaCare “Extremely Problematic.”** “‘Obamacare is extremely problematic, it is expensive, it is a \$500 billion cost than we originally anticipated, it’s cutting into Medicare benefits and it’s having companies lay off their employees because they are worried about the cost of it. That is extremely problematic, it needs an enormous fix,’ she said during a debate Monday night.” (Kate Nocera, “Colbert Busch Calls ObamaCare “Extremely Problematic,” [BuzzFeed](#), 4/29/13)

***ObamaCare’s Unpopularity Has Already Sunk Two Architects Of The Law***

**Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), An Architect Of ObamaCare “Is Retiring Rather Than Seek Re-Election In 2014.”** “Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) is retiring rather than seek re-election in 2014, according to two senior Democratic strategists familiar with his plans.” (Paul Kane, “Baucus To Retire Rather Than Seek Re-Election In 2014, Strategists Say,” [The Washington Post](#), 4/23/13)

- **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), Who Was An “Active Participant” To The Passage Of ObamaCare “Will Not Seek A Sixth Term In 2014.”** “Democratic Senator Jay Rockefeller announced on Friday that he will not seek a sixth term in 2014 to represent his home state of West Virginia, which has been trending more Republican in recent years. ... Senator Rockefeller has been a strong supporter of organized labor and was an active participant in health care reform initiatives, including Obama's successful effort in 2010.” (Richard Cowan, “Senator Rockefeller Announces Retirement,” [Reuters](#), 1/11/13)

- **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)