



Not Ready For Prime-Time

The Government's Watchdog Has Sobering News On The Implementation Of ObamaCare

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION GUARANTEED THAT THE EXCHANGES WILL BE UP AND RUNNING BY OCTOBER

Recently, Obama Said The Exchanges Would Be Completed By October 1. OBAMA: "We're setting up a new online marketplace, where beginning October 1, you can go online or talk to organizations in every State that are going to have this set up, and you can then comparison shop an array of private health insurance plans." (President Barack Obama, [Remarks On The Affordable Care Act](#), Washington, D.C., 5/10/13)

Health And Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius Stated That The ObamaCare Exchanges Will Be Open For Enrollment On October 1. SEBELIUS: "As I answered before Congressman, we will be open for open enrollment on October 1, of 2013 and we will be enrolling Americans across the country, January 1, 2014." (Committee On Ways And Means, U.S. House, [Hearing](#), 4/12/13)

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) Warned That ObamaCare Implementation Continues To Fall Behind Schedule

ObamaCare "May Not Be Ready For Prime-Time On October 1." "President Obama's signature health care law may not be ready for prime-time on October 1, when people begin signing up for the new insurance exchanges, according to a government report." (Elise Viebeck, "Government Report Questions ObamaCare Readiness," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 6/19/13)

TODAY'S GAO REPORT IS NOT GOOD NEWS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION

A Considerable Amount Of Work Must Be Completed For The Exchanges To Go Live

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) Has "Major Work To Complete" If The ObamaCare Exchanges Are To Go Live In October. "The Government Accountability Office said federal and state health officials still have major work to complete, offering its most cautious comments to date about the Obama administration's ability to bring the centerpiece of its signature law to fruition." (Louise Radnofsky and Sarah E. Needleman, "Health-Insurance Exchanges Are Falling Behind Schedule," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 6/19/13)

- **The Fundamental Parts Of The ObamaCare Exchanges "Had Not Been Completed."** "The report by the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office (GAO) said key parts of the

framework of the exchanges, including those that addressed consumers' eligibility for federal subsidies, management and monitoring of insurance plans and consumer assistance, had not been completed." (David Morgan, "New 'ObamaCare' Exchanges Could Miss Enrollment Deadline: GAO," [Reuters](#), 6/19/13)

The ObamaCare Exchanges Being Set Up By The Federal Government Are Likely To Miss The October 1 Deadline. "New health insurance exchanges being set up by the federal government in more than 30 states under President Barack Obama's 2010 healthcare overhaul could miss an October 1 deadline for open enrollment, a government report said on Wednesday." (David Morgan, "New 'ObamaCare' Exchanges Could Miss Enrollment Deadline: GAO," [Reuters](#), 6/19/13)

- **States That Have Opted To Run Their Own ObamaCare Exchange Have Been "Late On An Average Of 44 Percent Of Key Activities That Were Originally Scheduled To Be Completed By The End Of March."** "It said that the 17 states running their own exchanges were late on an average of 44% of key activities that were originally scheduled to be completed by the end of March. 'While interim deadlines missed thus far may not impact the establishment of exchanges, any additional missed deadlines closer to the start of enrollment could do so,' the report said." (Louise Radnofsky and Sarah E. Needleman, "Health-Insurance Exchanges Are Falling Behind Schedule," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 6/19/13)

OBAMACARE'S SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGES ARE SETTING UP TO BE A DISAPPOINTMENT

The GAO Found That ObamaCare's Small Business Exchange Continues To Miss Deadlines

GAO: The Creation Of The ObamaCare Small Business Exchanges Continues To Fall "Behind Schedule." "Many activities remain to be completed in the core functional areas of eligibility and enrollment, plan management, and consumer assistance, and while the agency has established timelines for completion of these activities, some were behind schedule." ("PPACA: Status Of Federal And State Efforts To Establish Health Insurance Exchanges For Small Business," [Government Accountability Office](#), 6/19/13)

"The Small-Business Exchanges In Particular Have Had Some Early Setbacks." (Louise Radnofsky and Sarah E. Needleman, "Health-Insurance Exchanges Are Falling Behind Schedule," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 6/19/13)

- **Insurers Have Shown Little Interest In Participating In ObamaCare's Small Business Exchanges, While Washington State Has Postponed Its Small Business Exchange.** "In some states, only one insurance carrier has expressed interest in the small-business exchange. In Washington state, officials have had to postpone the exchange altogether because they couldn't find a carrier willing to offer small-business plans for all parts of the state." (Louise Radnofsky and Sarah E. Needleman, "Health-Insurance Exchanges Are Falling Behind Schedule," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 6/19/13)

The Small Business Exchanges Were A "Major Selling Point" Of ObamaCare. "Unable to meet tight deadlines in the new health care law, the Obama administration is delaying parts of a program intended to provide affordable health insurance to small businesses and their employees — a major selling point for the health care legislation." (Robert Pear, "Small Firms' Offer of Plan Choices Under Health Law Delayed," [The New York Times](#), 4/1/13)

Democrats That Support ObamaCare Are Becoming Critical Of The Law's Effect On Small Business

"Some Democratic Members Of Congress Also Are Beginning To Express Concerns About Particular Aspects Of The Law Relating To Employers." (Louise Radnofsky and Sarah E. Needleman, "Health-Insurance Exchanges Are Falling Behind Schedule," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 6/19/13)

Senator Joe Donnelly (D-IN) Is The First Democrat That Favors Undoing A Requirement That

Employers Provide Coverage To Employees Working 30 Hours A Week. “Sen. Joe Donnelly of Indiana, who voted for the law as a member of the House, on Wednesday is expected to become the first Democrat who backed the law to support changing a requirement that larger firms must provide coverage to employees working 30 hours a week or more, his staff said.” (Louise Radnofsky and Sarah E. Needleman, “Health-Insurance Exchanges Are Falling Behind Schedule,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 6/19/13)

Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA) Has Voiced Her Concerns Over The Obama Administration’s Delay Of The Small Business Exchange. “Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-La.) told The New York Times the delay will ‘prolong and exacerbate health care costs that are crippling 29 million small businesses.’” (Sam Baker, “ObamaCare Takes Friendly Fire,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 4/12/13)

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) Has 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 Angus King (I-ME), Who Caucuses With Senate Democrats, Said He Was “Very Worried About The Way It’s Going To Be Implemented And The Regulations That Are Going To Be Promulgated In Response.” “Sen. Angus King (I-Maine) is worried that unaccountable and overly aggressive regulators will undermine the Affordable Care Act. ‘I’ve got to tell you, as a person who supported the Affordable Care Act, I’m very worried about the way it’s going to be implemented and the regulations that are going to be promulgated in response,’ King said at a conference on regulatory reform on Thursday.” (Julian Hatttem, “Angus King: Regulators Could Jeopardize ObamaCare,” [The Hill’s Reg Watch](#), 5/9/13)