



ObamaCare Labor Pains

ObamaCare Is Causing Headaches For Another Union

ANOTHER UNION CONDEMNS OBAMACARE

Las Vegas Sun Headline: “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare.” (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)

- **Nevada’s AFL-CIO Is The Most Recent Union “To Publicly Condemn The Health Care Law.”** “The union claims certain provisions of the law would destroy union health plans, making the usual staunch allies of President Barack Obama just the latest Las Vegas union to publicly condemn the health care law.” (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)

The AFL-CIO Joins A Chorus Of Other Unions That Are Critical Of The Law

“Three Major U.S. Unions ... Have Sent A Scathing Open Letter To Democratic Leaders” That ObamaCare Will “Destroy The Foundation Of The 40 Hour Work Week That Is The Backbone Of The Middle Class.” “The leaders of three major U.S. unions, including the highly influential Teamsters, have sent a scathing open letter to Democratic leaders in Congress, warning that unless changes are made, President Obama’s health care reform plan will ‘destroy the foundation of the 40 hour work week that is the backbone of the American middle class.’” (Tom Gara, “Union Letter: ObamaCare Will ‘Destroy The Very Health And Wellbeing’ Of Workers,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 7/12/13)

The United Food and Commercial Workers International Union “Is Very Worried About How The Reform Law Will Affect Its Members Health Care Plans.” “The United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) — a 1.3 million-member labor group that twice endorsed Obama for president — is very worried about how the reform law will affect its members’ health care plans.” (Kevin Brogadis, “Unions Break Ranks On ObamaCare,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 5/21/13)

“UNITE HERE, A Prominent Hotel Workers’ Union, And The International Brotherhood Of Teamsters Are Also Pushing For Changes.” (Kevin Brogadis, “Unions Break Ranks On ObamaCare,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 5/21/13)

Laborers International Union Of North America President Terry O’Sullivan Said In A Letter Addressed To Obama That ObamaCare Has “Destructive Consequences” On Health Plans That Cover Unionized Construction Workers. “In a letter sent to President Barack Obama on Thursday, Laborers International Union of North America President Terry O’Sullivan wrote that the law has ‘destructive consequences’ for the types of health plans that cover millions of unionized construction

workers and their family members.” (Kris Maher, “Union Fears ‘Destructive Consequences’ From ObamaCare,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 7/19/13)

The United Union Of Roofers, Waterproofers And Allied Workers Are Calling For Repeal Of ObamaCare. “A labor union representing roofers is reversing course and calling for repeal of the federal health law, citing concerns the law will raise its cost for insuring members. Organized labor was instrumental in getting the Affordable Care Act passed in 2010, but more recently has voiced concerns that the law could lead members to lose their existing health plans. The United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers is believed to be the first union to initially support the law and later call for its repeal.” (Janet Adamy, “Roofers Union Calls For Repeal Of Obama Health Law,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 4/16/13)

UNIONS ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF OBAMACARE

Unions Say That ObamaCare Will “Destroy” The 40-Hour Work Week And Lead To Higher Costs For Its Members

The AFL-CIO’s Resolutions Read That ObamaCare “Will Lead To The Destruction Of The 40 Hour Work Week, Higher Taxes, And Force Union Members Onto More Costly Plans.” “‘The unintended consequences of the ACA will lead to the destruction of the 40 hour work week, higher taxes and force union members onto more costly plans,’ the resolution reads.” (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)

- **The Administration Has Failed To Solve The Problem.** “‘The Administration has postured on proposals to address the problem, but no proposal to date will actually solve the problem,’ the resolution read. ‘Our health plans only get worse.’” (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)
- **Union Leader D. Taylor: ObamaCare Contains “Perverse Incentives.”** “[U]nion leaders like D. Taylor, head of UNITE Here and former head of Las Vegas’ Culinary Local 226, called the law’s ‘perverse incentives’ that potentially could shutter union Taft-Hartley health plans and leave workers without good health insurance.” (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)

UFCW President Joseph Hansen: Reduced Employee Hours To Comply With ObamaCare “IS Happening ... Wait A Year. You’ll See Tremendous Impact As Workers Have Their Hours Reduced.” “‘It IS happening,’ insisted Joseph Hansen, president of the United Food and Commercial Workers union, which has 1.2 million members. ‘Wait a year. You’ll see tremendous impact as workers have their hours reduced and their incomes reduced. The facts are already starting to show up. Their statistics, I think, are a little behind the time.’” (Lisa Myers and Carroll Ann Mears, “Businesses Claim ObamaCare Has Forced Them To Cut Employee Hours,” [NBC News](#), 8/13/13)

- **Hansen: ObamaCare “Creates Unstoppable Incentives For Employers To Reduce Weekly Hours For Workers ... Where Many Will Pay Higher Costs For Poorer Insurance.”** “‘This creates unstoppable incentives for employers to reduce weekly hours for workers currently on our plans and push them onto the exchanges where many will pay higher costs for poorer insurance with a more limited network of providers. In other words, they will be forced to change their coverage and quite possibly their doctor. Others will be channeled into Medicaid, where taxpayers must pick up the tab.’” (Joseph T. Hansen, Op-Ed, “Treat Nonprofit Health Care Fairly,” [The Hill](#), 5/20/13)

ObamaCare Will “Destroy The Foundation Of The 40 Hour Work Week That Is The Backbone Of The American Middle Class.” “Right now, unless you and the Obama Administration enact an equitable

fix, the ACA will shatter not only our hard-earned health benefits, but destroy the foundation of the 40 hour work week that is the backbone of the American middle class.” (James P. Hoffa – International Brotherhood Of Teamsters, Joseph Hansen – UFCW, D. Taylor – UNITE-HERE, “[Letter To Leader Reid And Leader Pelosi](#),” 7/12/13)

- **Unions To Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) And House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA): ObamaCare Creates An Incentive To Keep Employees Below 30 Hours A Week.** “First, the law creates an incentive for employers to keep employees’ work hours below 30 hours a week. Numerous employers have begun to cut workers’ hours to avoid this obligation, and many of them are doing so openly. The impact is two-fold: fewer hours means less pay while also losing our current health benefits.” (James P. Hoffa – International Brotherhood Of Teamsters, Joseph Hansen – UFCW, D. Taylor – UNITE-HERE, “[Letter To Leader Reid And Leader Pelosi](#),” 7/12/13)

Laborers International Union Of North America President Terry O’Sullivan Said In A Letter Addressed To Obama That ObamaCare Has “Destructive Consequences” On Health Plans That Cover Unionized Construction Workers. “In a letter sent to President Barack Obama on Thursday, Laborers International Union of North America President Terry O’Sullivan wrote that the law has ‘destructive consequences’ for the types of health plans that cover millions of unionized construction workers and their family members.” (Kris Maher, “Union Fears ‘Destructive Consequences’ From ObamaCare,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 7/19/13)

- **O’Sullivan Said That Costs Were Rising Due To ObamaCare’s Mandates And Taxes.** “Mr. O’Sullivan zeroed in on some factors that could directly impact unionized construction workers who are typically covered by multiemployer plans. He noted that costs are rising for such plans because of the law’s benefit mandates. Moreover, a tax under the law would cost such health plans \$63 per covered individual, or \$630,000 for a plan covering 10,000 people, he wrote. The proceeds of the tax will be used to subsidize insurance companies offering health plans in the Health Exchanges.” (Kris Maher, “Union Fears ‘Destructive Consequences’ From ObamaCare,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 7/19/13)

OBAMACARE IS WEAKENING THE SACRED ALLIANCE BETWEEN DEMOCRATS AND UNIONS

“Labor Unions Are Breaking With President Obama On ObamaCare.” “Labor unions are breaking with President Obama on ObamaCare. Months after the president’s reelection, a variety of unions are publicly balking at how the administration plans to implement the landmark law. They warn that unless there are changes, the results could be catastrophic.” (Kevin Brogatus, “Unions Break Ranks On ObamaCare,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 5/21/13)

“When President Barack Obama Pushed His Health Care Overhaul Plan Through Congress, He Counted Labor Unions Among His Strongest Supporters.” (Sam Hananel, “Some Unions Now Angry About Health Care Overhaul,” [The Associated Press](#), 5/24/13)

- **“Unions Had Originally Backed The Law But Have Grown Increasingly Skeptical ...”** (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)

Will Union Condemnation Of ObamaCare Make Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) The Senate Minority Leader In 2014?

Last Year, Labor Unions Helped “Democrats Keep Their Majority In The Senate.” “Labor unions have been among the president’s closest allies, spending millions of dollars to help him win re-election and help Democrats keep their majority in the Senate.” (Sam Hananel, “Some Unions Now Angry About Health Care Overhaul,” [The Associated Press](#), 5/24/13)

Teamsters, UFCW, and UNITE-HERE Letter To Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) And Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA): Our Support For You And ObamaCare “Has Come Back To Haunt Us.” “Like millions of other Americans, our members are front-line workers in the American economy. We have been strong supporters of the notion that all Americans should have access to quality, affordable health care. We have also been strong supporters of you. In campaign after campaign we have put boots on the ground, gone door-to-door to get out the vote, run phone banks and raised money to secure this vision. Now this vision has come back to haunt us.” (James P. Hoffa – International Brotherhood Of Teamsters, Joseph Hansen – UFCW, D. Taylor – UNITE-HERE, “[Letter To Leader Reid And Leader Pelosi](#),” 7/12/13)

UFCW Head Joseph Hansen Said That ObamaCare Is Going To Be An Issue In 2014, And Union Members Are Already Upset Even Though The Law Hasn’t Taken Effect. “‘What happens in 2014 could be at issue here. ... There is going to be a lot of disenchantment with how did this happen and who was in power when it happened. No matter what I say, that’s going to be there,’ Hansen said. ‘They are upset already and it hasn’t even taken effect already.’” (Kevin Brogadus, “Unions Break Ranks On ObamaCare,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 5/21/13)

Nevada’s “AFL-CIO Passed Its Resolution Just Hours After Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., Addressed The Union.” “The Nevada State AFL-CIO passed its resolution just hours after U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., addressed the union at its annual convention at the Excalibur.” (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)

- **“Reid Made No Mention Of ObamaCare ...”** “Reid made no mention of ObamaCare during his brief speech and instead talked about federal transportation spending before introducing the chief of the federal Department of Labor, who also delivered remarks to the union.” (Andrew Doughman, “Nevada AFL-CIO Condemns ObamaCare,” [Las Vegas Sun](#), 8/21/13)