



Turning A Blind Eye To ObamaCare's Side Effects

As ObamaCare Moves Forward, The Obama Administration's Advice To Democrats Is To Ignore Their Constituents And Carry On

THIS WEEK, HHS SECRETARY KATHLEEN SEBELIUS TOLD DEMOCRATS TO PAY NO MIND TO MEDIA ACCOUNTS OF AMERICANS SUFFERING FROM THE EFFECTS OF OBAMACARE

After A Meeting With Secretary Sebelius, Rep. Tony Cárdenas (D- CA) Said That The Secretary Told Democrats To Not Listen To Reports Of People Struggling Under ObamaCare. "She told lawmakers not to worry when they read media accounts about people losing their health coverage, said Rep. Tony Cárdenas (D-Calif.). 'There are articles here and there in newspapers talking about people who lost their coverage, ... but the assurance she's been giving us is a lot of those are probably pre-anticipations, and a lot of those are going to be unfounded if they just take a deep breath,' he said." (Paige Winfield Cunningham and Jennifer Haberkorn, "Dems To Kathleen Sebelius: Seniors Confused On ObamaCare," [Politico](#), 6/27/13)

HOW CAN DEMOCRATS AND THE ADMINISTRATION TURN A BLIND EYE TO AMERICANS LIVING WITH THE BURDEN OF OBAMACARE?

School Districts Are Being Forced To Reduce The Hours Of Employees

In Pennsylvania, ObamaCare Has Forced The East Penn School District To Reduce The Hours Of Eleven Food Service Employees. "Eleven East Penn School District food service employees will have their hours cut to 29.75 hours a week – just 15 minutes shy of the 30-hours-a-week that triggers the mandate that employers provide health benefits under ObamaCare." (Margie Peterson, "East Penn Cuts Cafeteria Workers' Hours To Avoid ObamaCare," [The Morning Call](#), 6/27/13)

Pennsylvania's Southern Lehigh School District Has Had To Cut Hours Cutting Hours Over ObamaCare Mandates. "Southern Lehigh School District is reducing the hours of secretaries, custodians, cafeteria workers and other part-timers so it doesn't have to provide them with health care under the Affordable Care Act." (Melinda Rizzo, "Southern Lehigh To Reduce Part-Time Hours To Avoid Obamacare," [The Morning Call](#), 6/13/13)

- **Other Districts In Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley Are Also Having To Reduce Employee Hours**

Due To ObamaCare. “Cash-strapped districts across the Lehigh Valley are weighing what to do with their part-timers. Earlier this month, Southern Lehigh School District reduced the hours of 51 part-timers to avoid a bigger health-care bill.” (Margie Peterson, “East Penn Cuts Cafeteria Workers’ Hours To Avoid ObamaCare,” [The Morning Call](#), 6/27/13)

Indiana Schools Are Cutting Employee Hours. “Schools across Indiana are cutting back the hours of teacher assistants, bus drivers, cafeteria workers and other aides to avoid having to offer them health insurance under the federal health care employer mandate that begins next year.” (Maureen Groppe, “Indiana Schools’ Dilemma: Offer Health Insurance To Part-Timers Or Cut Hours,” [Courier-Journal](#), 6/8/13)

Officials In Nebraska’s Papillion-La Vista School District Plan To Cut The Hours Of As Many As 281 Part-Time Employees Due To Obamacare. “Officials in the Papillion-La Vista school district plan to cut the hours of as many as 281 part-time employees, most of them paraprofessionals, to avoid the cost of a federal mandate to provide health insurance to employees working at least 30 hours a week.” (Joe Dejka, “The Cost Of Progress? School Districts Cut Part-Time Hours To Save Cash,” [Omaha World-Herald](#), 5/23/13)

In North Carolina, The Wake County Public School System Is “Restricting Its 3,300-Plus Substitutes To Working Less Than 30 Hours A Week.” “McCoy Faulkner collects \$81 a day as a substitute teacher in the Wake County (N.C.) Public School System. A mere sub, he has no benefits. ... But instead of adding subs like Faulkner to its health care plan, the school system is looking for ways to avoid doing so. Wake is considering restricting its 3,300-plus substitutes to working less than 30 hours a week, effective July 1.” (John Murawski, “For Some Workers, Health Reform Brings No Coverage, Fewer Hours,” [The News & Observer](#), 6/11/13)

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: Ohio School Systems Are Cutting Workers’ Hours To Avoid New Health-Insurance Costs. “Local school systems cutting workers’ hours to avoid hundreds of thousands of dollars in new health-insurance costs is simply the latest sign that the federal health-care overhaul is filled with unintended consequences and hidden costs.” (Editorial, “Unhealthy Side Effects, Employers Seek Ways To Avoid Health-Care Law’s Burdens” [Columbus Dispatch](#), 4/14/13)

- **The Highly Rated Upper Arlington School District Plans To Trim Some Employees’ Hours From 32.5-28 Hours Per Week.** “The highly rated Upper Arlington school district is one of a growing number of school systems around the country that is making the understandable decision to trim some employees’ hours from 32.5 to 28 hours per week, lest they be faced with a bill of \$225,000 next year to insure these workers under the ironically named Affordable Care Act.” (Editorial, “Unhealthy Side Effects, Employers Seek Ways To Avoid Health-Care Law’s Burdens” [Columbus Dispatch](#), 4/14/13)

Businesses Are Being Forced To Reduce Hours And Are Facing Financial Distress

In Indiana, One Business Is Being Forced To Shift Full-Time Employees To Part-Time And Reduce Hours. “Similar to other businesses across the country, Wolfe’s Auto Auction in Terre Haute says it is cutting work hours of several of its employees because of the insurance mandates of the federal Affordable Care Act. Ten full-time employees will be reduced to part-time status, while part-timers will work no more than 25 to 28 hours per week, said Dan Wolfe, one of the owners of the family-owned business. The reason cited? The Affordable Care Act defines a full-time worker as anyone who works 30 hours or more each week, and businesses will be required to provide health insurance to all of their full-time employees.” (Sue Loughlin, “Affordable Care Act Insurance Mandates Leading Some Businesses To Cut Employees’ Work Hours,” [The Tribune-Star](#), 6/25/13)

- **According To The Business Owner, He May Be Unable To Give His Employees A Raise Due To The Added Cost Burden Of ObamaCare.** “The new health care law affects the business in other ways as well. ‘I have to provide my full-time employees an insurance package that does not exceed 9.5 percent of their gross pay,’ he said. That will be an additional cost to the business, and

those employees 'won't see raises like they would have' otherwise, he said." (Sue Loughlin, "Affordable Care Act Insurance Mandates Leading Some Businesses To Cut Employees' Work Hours," [The Tribune-Star](#), 6/25/13)

ObamaCare Is Causing An Ohio Restaurant To Reduce Hours For Staff. "We talked to the owner of the restaurant Shane Beukre. He said any business with 50 or more employees will have to offer insurance to workers with 30 or more hours a week. If he does not do that, he gets fined \$2,000 per employee. Beukre told us he's cutting some people down to under 30 hours to help with costs to his business and the workers." (Holly Roney, "ObamaCare: Is It Worth If For Local Workers," [Toledo News Now](#), 6/27/13)

ObamaCare Mandates Are Forcing Michigan Companies To Reduce Employee Hours. "The debate over the Affordable Care Act -- or ObamaCare -- it is already impacting some Michigan workers: Many part-time workers told 24 Hour News 8 their hours are getting cut to avoid qualifying for insurance. Russ' Restaurant is among the local companies cutting back employee hours due to the Affordable Care Act, saying that non-managing employees can't work more than 25 hours a week." (Dani Carlson, "Part-Time Hours Cut Due To Health Care," [WOODTV](#), 6/11/13)

A Missouri Business Has Had To Cut The Hours Of Employees Due To ObamaCare. "After receiving emails from several employees at Maritz in Kirksville telling us that hours were being cut, we did some checking. We did receive confirmation from Sherry Ward, Vice President of Corporate Services, that effective July 1, Maritz will be limiting employees to no more than 25 hours each week. In a written statement, Ward blamed the Affordable Care Act for the changes in hours. The statement reads in part, 'the new guidelines require companies to proactively manage average hours worked on a weekly basis or incur significant additional costs.'" ("Affordable Care Act Blamed For Maritz Cuts," [KTVO-CBS](#), 6/10/13)

ObamaCare May Force Hollywood Production Companies To Shoot Scenes In Foreign Countries, Costing American Jobs. "One of the unintended consequences, say some industry insiders, is that it could lead to productions running to foreign countries, given that ACA doesn't apply to U.S. citizens working abroad." (Paul Bond, "ObamaCare Hits Hollywood: Studios Brace For The Affordable Care Act," [Hollywood Reporter](#), 6/26/13)

- **Companies Will Be Forced To Wrap Productions Within 90 Days To Comply With ObamaCare, Resulting In Lost Wages For Employees.** "Some also say the number of production days in the U.S. are likely to be cut due to ACA because there's a 90-day waiting period before productions must either pay a penalty or offer health insurance to full-time workers. That rule provides big incentives for a production to wrap in less than three months." (Paul Bond, "ObamaCare Hits Hollywood: Studios Brace For The Affordable Care Act," [Hollywood Reporter](#), 6/26/13)

Regal Entertainment Group Has Announced A Plan To Cut Employees Or Reduce Employee Hours. "REG is joining other companies that have announced plans to either cut workers on their hours to avoid facing increased health care costs under ObamaCare. (Christopher Seward, "Regal Cutting Theater Workers' Hours Due To ObamaCare," [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 4/17/13)

Employee Raises May Be A Thing Of The Past As ObamaCare Is Forcing Employers To Choose Insurance Plans Where Premiums Are Based On Salary, Resulting In Higher Premiums. "Expecting to get a raise next year? It could be eaten up by your health care bill. In an effort to meet the affordability requirement of the Affordable Care Act, which kicks in next year and requires that workers spend no more than 9.5% of their income on premiums, more employers are turning to insurance plans in which premiums vary based on a person's salary, rather than having all workers pay a flat rate. That way, employees who make more money pay bigger premiums." (Jonelle Marte, "ObamaCare Could Eat Up Your Raise," [Market Watch](#), 6/27/13)

- **Employers Have Had To Come Up With Unconventional Means To Deal With The Increase In Health Care Costs.** “While the strategy, which some employers have been using for decades, is still not mainstream, more companies are adopting the system as a way to prepare for the health reform law.” (Jonelle Marte, “ObamaCare Could Eat Up Your Raise,” [Market Watch](#), 6/27/13)

SECRETARY SEBELIUS’S AUDACIOUS COMMENT MAY EXPLAIN OBAMACARE’S UNPOPULARITY

June Polling Of ObamaCare Finds That Americans Continue To Disapprove Of ObamaCare

52 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of ObamaCare. “Fifty-two percent of Americans say they disapprove of the 2010 Affordable Care Act, while 44% approve.” (Elizabeth Mendes, “Americans Wary Of Health Law’s Impact,” [Gallup](#), 6/27/13; [Gallup](#), 2,048 A, MoE 3%, 6/20-24/13)

- **This Is A Stark Change From Last Fall When Only 45 Percent Disapproved Of ObamaCare.** “Last fall, 48% said they approved of the law and 45% disapproved.” (Elizabeth Mendes, “Americans Wary Of Health Law’s Impact,” [Gallup](#), 6/27/13; [Gallup](#), 2,048 A, MoE 3%, 6/20-24/13)

43 Percent Of Americans Continue To Hold An Unfavorable View Of ObamaCare. ([Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: June 2013](#), 1,505 A, MoE 3%, 6/4-9/13)

- **The Highest Unfavorable Rating Since November 2012.** ([Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: June 2013](#), 1,505 A, MoE 3%, 6/4-9/13)

42 Percent Of Americans Say That ObamaCare Will Make Their Family’s Health Care Situation Worse. “Forty-two percent say that in the long run, the law will make their family's health care situation worse; 22% say it will make it better.” (Elizabeth Mendes, “Americans Wary Of Health Law’s Impact,” [Gallup](#), 6/27/13; [Gallup](#), 2,048 A, MoE 3%, 6/20-24/13)

47 Percent Of Americans Say That ObamaCare Will Make “The Health Care Situation In The U.S. Worse.” “And almost half believe the law will make the healthcare situation in the U.S. worse; 34% say it will make it better.” (Elizabeth Mendes, “Americans Wary Of Health Law’s Impact,” [Gallup](#), 6/27/13; [Gallup](#), 2,048 A, MoE 3%, 6/20-24/13)

33 Percent Of Americans Now Say Their Family Will Be Worse Off Under ObamaCare. ([Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: June 2013](#), 1,505 A, MoE 3%, 6/4-9/13)

- **This Is The Highest Since ObamaCare Was Enacted Into Law.** ([Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: June 2013](#), 1,505 A, MoE 3%, 6/4-9/13)

40 Percent Of Americans Say The “Country Will Be Worse Off Under ObamaCare Than Better.” ([Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: June 2013](#), 1,505 A, MoE 3%, 6/4-9/13)

- **The Second Highest Number Since Kaiser Began Tracking The Question In February 2009.** ([Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: June 2013](#), 1,505 A, MoE 3%, 6/4-9/13)