



ObamaCare's Bayou Blues

Obama Comes To Louisiana As ObamaCare Kicks Thousands Off Their Plans And Mary Landrieu Scrambles For Cover

Looking To Change The Subject From The Disastrous Impact Of ObamaCare, President Obama Is Speaking In New Orleans Today About The Economy. "President Barack Obama will visit New Orleans on Friday, Nov. 8, to discuss the economy, the White House confirmed Friday. The president is planning to discuss the importance of taking measures to grow the economy and create jobs by increasing exports." (Jordan Blum, "President To Visit New Orleans," [The Advocate](#), 11/6/13)

Louisiana's Only Statewide Elected Democrat, Sen. Mary Landrieu, Won't Be Joining Obama At His New Orleans Event. "When President Barack Obama appears at the Port of New Orleans tomorrow, he won't be joined by Louisiana's only statewide elected Democrat, U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu." (Julia O'Donoghue, "Sen. Landrieu Won't Appear With Obama At Port Of New Orleans," [The Times-Picayune](#), 11/7/13)

- **Landrieu Is Hitching A Ride On Air Force One, But Claims She Can't Appear With Obama Due To A "Long-Standing Engagement" Elsewhere.** "Landrieu will travel with Obama to New Orleans on the president's plane, Air Force One, but she doesn't plan to attend his speech about boosting exports. The U.S. Senator has a long-standing engagement in Lake Charles that takes place at the same time and she can't be in both places at once, staff said." (Julia O'Donoghue, "Sen. Landrieu Won't Appear With Obama At Port Of New Orleans," [The Times-Picayune](#), 11/7/13)

LANDRIEU'S RELUCTANCE TO APPEAR WITH OBAMA IS UNDERSTANDABLE – OBAMACARE IS PUNISHING LOUISIANA FAMILIES

According To Louisiana Insurance Commissioner Jim Donelon, 92,739 People Will Be Kicked Off Of Their Insurance Due To ObamaCare. "His policy is among the 92,793 individual insurance plans that Louisiana Commissioner of Insurance Jim Donelon reported would be discontinued because the coverage does not meet the coverage standards set by the federal Affordable Care Act." (Michelle Millhollon and Jordan Blum, "Business Owners Complain About Health Plan Changes," [The Advocate](#), 11/7/13)

The Number Losing Their Insurance Represent More Than Half Of Louisiana's Individual Insurance Market. "The figure could account for close to half of the 165,000 people in Louisiana who hold individual health insurance plans that they pay for without the help of an employer or the government." (Rebecca Catalanello, "80,000 Louisianians' Health Insurance Policies Will Be Canceled Under Affordable Care Act," [The Times-Picayune](#), 11/4/13)

- **“‘These People Were Obviously Satisfied With Their Insurance,’ Donelon Said, ‘And I Hope That They Don’t Drop Out Of The Market.’”** (Rebecca Catalanello, “80,000 Louisianians’ Health Insurance Policies Will Be Canceled Under Affordable Care Act,” [The Times-Picayune](#), 11/4/13)

Those Who Have Lost Their Plans May Face Significantly Higher Costs

According To HHS’s Report On Premiums In The ObamaCare Exchanges, A 27 Year Old In Louisiana Will Pay An Average Of \$175 A Month For The Lowest Bronze Plan – An Increase Of 376.19 Percent Over Average Premiums Currently Available. (Office Of The Assistant Secretary For Planning And Evaluation, “Health Insurance Marketplace Premiums For 2014,” [HHS](#), 9/13; John E. Dickson, Director Of Health Care For The Government Accountability Office, [Letter To Honorable Orrin G. Hatch](#), 7/23/13)

Baton Rouge Resident Lionel Rainey Lost His Health Insurance And Will See The Price Of Health Coverage Double As A Result Of ObamaCare. “Baton Rouge public relations consultant Lionel Rainey said Wednesday the price of his health insurance will double even though he rarely makes a doctor’s appointment. His policy is among the 92,793 individual insurance plans that Louisiana Commissioner of Insurance Jim Donelon reported would be discontinued because the coverage does not meet the coverage standards set by the federal Affordable Care Act.” (Michelle Millhollon and Jordan Blum, “Business Owners Complain About Health Plan Changes,” [The Advocate](#), 11/7/13)

- **“Rainey’s Plan Didn’t Meet The Minimum Standards But He Was Happy With It. ‘I Don’t Go To The Doctor Much. This Was The Plan That Fit Me And Fit My Lifestyle,’ The 35-Year-Old Said.”** (Michelle Millhollon and Jordan Blum, “Business Owners Complain About Health Plan Changes,” [The Advocate](#), 11/7/13)

Rainey’s New Plan Will Cost Him Nearly \$600 A Month And Includes Coverage He Doesn’t Need. “Rainey declined to name his insurer, but he said the new policy will cost him nearly \$600 a month. He said he also will get coverage he does not need, such as a maternity plan.” (Michelle Millhollon and Jordan Blum, “Business Owners Complain About Health Plan Changes,” [The Advocate](#), 11/7/13)

As A Result Of His Increased Health Insurance Costs, Rainey Put Plans To Expand His Business And Hire A New Employee On Hold. “Rainey put plans to expand his business on hold when he got the letter from his insurance company. He wanted to hire an additional person but is unsure whether he can afford it.” (Michelle Millhollon and Jordan Blum, “Business Owners Complain About Health Plan Changes,” [The Advocate](#), 11/7/13)

John Overton, A Baton Rouge Small Business Owner, Reports That His Employees May See Their Annual Deductibles Increase From \$3,000 To \$5,000 For Individuals And From \$5,000 To \$10,000 For Families. “John Overton owns and operates Turnkey Solutions, a Baton Rouge business that offers health care technology and small business solutions. Turnkey employs 12 people. Overton said 15 percent of his staff are on a high deductible plan that offers \$3,000 annual deductibles for individuals and \$6,000 annual deductibles for families. He said his insurer, United Healthcare, still is crunching the numbers, but individuals likely will have \$5,000 annual deductibles under the Affordable Care Act. Families’ deductibles could increase to \$10,000 a year.” (Michelle Millhollon and Jordan Blum, “Business Owners Complain About Health Plan Changes,” [The Advocate](#), 11/7/13)

Louisiana Employers Continue To Lay Off Employees Due To ObamaCare

The Lafayette-Based Schumacher Group Announced In October That It Will Lay Off 32 People In Louisiana. “For the third time this year, Schumacher Group is eliminating positions. The Lafayette-based health care company announced Monday that it will eliminate 42 jobs nationwide, including 32 in Louisiana. Of the 32 Louisiana eliminations, 31 are in Lafayette, and one is in Lacombe.” (Megan Wyatt, “Schumacher Group Lays Off 31 Employees In Lafayette,” [The Advertiser](#), 10/28/13)

- **“The Company Cited The Affordable Care Act And Other Related Factors As Cause For The Position Eliminations.”** (Megan Wyatt, “Schumacher Group Lays Off 31 Employees In Lafayette,” [The Advertiser](#), 10/28/13)

The Schumacher Group Was Forced To Lay Off 41 Employees Due To ObamaCare Earlier This Year As Well. “Effective today, 41 employees at the Schumacher Group in Lafayette, have lost their jobs. According to a company letter, the Patient Financial Management Services division is being cut because of changes to health care law from ObamaCare. A Schumacher Group spokesperson says the department can’t handle an increase in patient needs.” ([KATC](#), 5/1/13)

Louisiana Restaurant Owner Frank Dedman: “I Had To Let A Couple Of My Full-Timers Go.” “Frank Dedman, the owner of Frank's Restaurant, told News 2 he made cuts to his staff to be in compliance with the new rules and regulations. ‘We've had people here for quite a few years, majority of them were part-timers,’ said Dedman. ‘I had to let a couple of my full-timers go.’” (Brittany Weiss, “Restaurant Cuts Staff, Blames Health Reform,” [WBRZ](#), 6/15/13)

OBAMACARE’S DISASTROUS IMPACT IS BAD NEWS FOR LANDRIEU, WHO DARED LOUISIANANS TO “UNELECT” HER IF THEY DON’T LIKE OBAMACARE

Mary Landrieu Recently Declared On The Floor Of The Senate That If Her Constituents Don’t Like ObamaCare, They Can “Unelect” Her. “If they do not like the bill, they can change the bill. We did not wake up one morning and declare this the law. The people of the United States declared this through us as their Representatives. If they do not like it, they can unelect us. Believe me, they will have a great chance because I am up for reelection right now. They will be able to do that.” (Sen. Mary Landrieu, [Floor Remarks](#), 10/12/13)

- **Landrieu: “I Am Going To Run For Reelection. I Am Standing In This Election As A Supporter Of The Affordable Care Act.”** (Sen. Mary Landrieu, [Floor Remarks](#), 10/12/13)

In March, Landrieu Said She Was “Proud” Of Her Vote For ObamaCare, And “Glad” She Voted For It. “And the last thing she’s worried about is having Republicans attack her for supporting Obamacare. ‘I am proud of my support for the Affordable Care Act, whether my opponents want to call it ACA or Obamacare, I voted for it. I’m glad I voted for it,’ Landrieu said.” (Ginger Gibson, “Mary Landrieu’s 2014 Playbook Is Her Own,” [Politico](#), 3/29/13)

Landrieu: “If I Had To Vote For The Bill Again, I Would Vote For It Tomorrow.” (John Guidroz, “Landrieu, Fleming Discuss Affordable Care Act,” [American Press](#), 8/17/13)

- **Landrieu: “It’s Embarrassing To Me To Go To Places Like France And Spain . . . And Their Workers All Manage To Have Health Insurance That Can’t Be Taken Away.”** (John Guidroz, “Landrieu, Fleming Discuss Affordable Care Act,” [American Press](#), 8/17/13)

LANDRIEU ECHOED OBAMA’S “KEEP YOUR PLAN” PROMISE AND NOW SAYS THAT HE SHOULD KEEP HIS WORD...

In 2009, Landrieu Said On The Floor Of The Senate That “Those Individuals Who Like The Coverage They Already Have Will Be Able To Keep Their Current Plan.” LANDRIEU: “Individuals and small businesses that do not have coverage would be able to select a private insurance plan from a range of options sold on a National Insurance Exchange. Lower and middle income people would receive subsidies to help them afford this insurance, while those individuals who like the coverage they already have will be able to keep their current plan. This is a very accurate description of this bill before us--the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.” (Sen. Mary Landrieu, [Floor Remarks](#), 12/22/09)

Landrieu Blamed Obama For People Losing Their Existing Plans

When Asked About People Losing Their Existing Health Coverage Due To ObamaCare, Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA) Blamed Obama. “Louisiana Sen. Mary Landrieu, who like Begich is up for re-election in a Republican-leaning state, acknowledged that Obama’s claims were an important political sales pitch that she and other Democrats relied on to make their case for Obamacare.” (David M. Drucker, “Democrats Concede That Obama Oversold Promise For Health Care Law,” [Washington Examiner](#), 10/30/13)

- **Landrieu: “The President Said It Many, Many Times. ... I Don’t Think He Intentionally Oversold It, But If That’s Not What’s Happening Then It Needs To Be Fixed, Because It Was Clearly A Promise That He Made.”** (David M. Drucker, “Democrats Concede That Obama Oversold Promise For Health Care Law,” [Washington Examiner](#), 10/30/13)

Landrieu Says She Will Fix ObamaCare To Allow People To Stay On Their Plans

Landrieu Has Introduced Legislation To Allow Individuals To Stay On Their Plans Even If The Plans Do Not Meet ObamaCare’s Requirements. “Democratic Senators Mary Landrieu of Louisiana and Joe Manchin of West Virginia introduced a bill on Monday that would allow insurers to sell any plans available on the individual market in 2013 in future years.” (Arit John, “How Democrats Are Trying to Fix, But Not Criticize, Obamacare,” [Atlantic Wire](#), 11/6/13)

While Introducing Her Bill, Landrieu Read An Insurance Cancellation Letter Into The Record And Declared “This Letter Should Have Never Gone Out.” (Sen. Mary Landrieu, [Floor Remarks](#), 11/4/13)

- **Landrieu: “What’s Happening Now, Unfortunately Because That Grandfather Provision In The Affordable Care Act, In My View...Was Not Written As Tightly As It Should Have Been, As Clearly As It Should Have Been.”** (Sen. Mary Landrieu, [Floor Remarks](#), 11/4/13)

...BUT LANDRIEU HELPED OBAMA BREAK HIS PROMISE

In 2010, Senate Republicans Attempted To Strike Down The ObamaCare Regulation Costing People Their Healthcare That Landrieu Now Criticizes. “Senate Democrats voted unanimously three years ago to support the Obamacare rule that is largely responsible for some of the health insurance cancellation letters that are going out. In September 2010, Senate Republicans brought a resolution to the floor to block implementation of the grandfather rule, warning that it would result in canceled policies and violate President Barack Obama’s promise that people could keep their insurance if they liked it.” (Chris Frates, “Senate Democrats Supported Rule That Led To Insurance Cancellations,” [CNN](#), 10/31/13)

The Republican Resolution Would Have Struck Down HHS’s Regulations That Narrowed The Grandfathering Provision In ObamaCare That Was Intended To Help Americans Keep Their Insurance Plans. “The precipitating event was the federal regulation detailing the grandfathering provision of the law, which exempts existing health plans from certain requirements such as having to offer benefits without cost sharing. Sen. Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.) introduced a resolution of disapproval calling for a do-over on the regulation, which many businesses say is too onerous.” (Julian Pecquet, “Grandfathering Vote Sparks Renewed Health Reform Debate,” [The Hill’s Health Watch](#), 10/29/10)

Senate Democrats Voted Unanimously To Protect The Rule. “Senate Democrats voted unanimously three years ago to support the Obamacare rule that is largely responsible for some of the health insurance cancellation letters that are going out.” (Chris Frates, “Senate Democrats Supported Rule That Led To Insurance Cancellations,” [CNN](#), 10/31/13)

- **Landrieu Voted With Every Other Senate Democrat To Protect The ObamaCare Rule That Is Kicking People Off Of Their Plans.** (S.J.Res 39, [Roll Call Vote #244](#), Defeated 40-59: R 40-0; D 0-59, 9/29/10, Landrieu Voted Nay)