



Penn Ave. Freakout

Democrats Are Increasingly Nervous And Angry About ObamaCare, And For Good Reason

ObamaCare's Disastrous Rollout Has Left Democrats "Frustrated, Bitter And Angry." "They are letting it be known that House and Senate Democrats are increasingly frustrated, bitter and angry with the White House over ObamaCare's botched rollout, and that the president's mea culpa in a news conference last week failed to soothe any ill will." (Amie Parnes, "Obama Hits New Low With Dems," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 11/20/13)

Democrats Up For Reelection Disagree With The White House That ObamaCare Will Fix Itself. "But the senior officials say the most important thing the White House can do right now is to get the implementation of the healthcare law right. The feeling in the West Wing corridors lately is that once the rollout is fixed, the public will see all the positives behind ObamaCare. 'The policy will take care of the politics,' one senior administration official said. But not everyone agrees with that sentiment — particularly those Democrats in both chambers who are up for reelection in 2014." (Amie Parnes, "Obama Hits New Low With Dems," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 11/20/13)

2014 Democrats Are "Freaking Out" According To A Senior Democratic Aide. "'They're freaking out, as they should be,' said one senior Senate Democratic aide, adding that the rollout continues to be 'a lasting mess.'" (Amie Parnes, "Obama Hits New Low With Dems," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 11/20/13)

If Obama Hits The Campaign Trail Next Year, He'll Be Lonely

Obama Is Expected To Help Democrats Campaign Next Year, But Democrats In Swing Districts Will Probably Avoid Obama At All Costs. "The White House hasn't indicated just how much Obama will help campaign for those who are up for reelection next year. The president, who has been attending a string of fundraisers in recent days — including a West Coast check-collecting trip this weekend — is expected to help lawmakers and both campaign committees throughout 2014. But as the healthcare problems continue to persist, lawmakers in swing districts aren't sure that's the best idea, especially because, according to one Democrat, 'systemically you have what is a long-term problem.'" (Amie Parnes, "Obama Hits New Low With Dems," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 11/20/13)

- **"It Wouldn't Be Helpful,' The Senate Aide Said."** (Amie Parnes, "Obama Hits New Low With Dems," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 11/20/13)

Hill Aide: "It's Probably The Worst I've Ever Seen It." "'It's probably the worst I've ever seen it,' the aide said of the recent mood on Capitol Hill. 'It's bad. It's really bad.'" (Amie Parnes, "Obama Hits New Low With Dems," [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 11/20/13)

DEMOCRATS IN TARGETED RACES WILL BE UNABLE TO DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM OBAMACARE

Mary Landrieu (D-LA) Dared Louisiana Voters To “Unelect” Her If They Don’t Like ObamaCare

In October Of 2013, Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA) 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)

- **Senator 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)

Senator Landrieu In August: “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 \[LA\]](#), 8/17/13)

Mark Pryor (D-AR) Called ObamaCare An “Amazing Success Story”

Senator Mark Pryor (D-AR) Praised ObamaCare As “An Amazing Success Story” In August. KHOG’s CRAIG CANNON: “Political experts say the new healthcare law could be a hot topic. Pryor was one of 60 Democrats who voted for it back in 2009. He defends that vote today.” SENATOR MARK PRYOR: “I would say if you want a good opinion about ObamaCare, go right here to Mercy Hospital and ask them how they feel about it. It’s been an amazing success story so far.” (“Rep. Tom Cotton Running For Senate,” [KHOG](#), 8/6/13)

In A June TV Interview, Senator Pryor Doubled Down On His Support For Obamacare, Saying: “I Think It Was The Right Vote, I Think It Was Good For Arkansas.” HOST: “Do you still stand by your vote for federal health care? What do you tell, what is your message to voters as to why that was the right vote?” PRYOR: “I do. I think it was the right vote, I think it was good for Arkansas.” (Interview With Senator Mark Pryor, [KARK-TV](#), 6/2/13)

Mark Begich (D-AK) Insisted “There’s A Lot Of Good” In ObamaCare

Senator Mark Begich (D-AK) Proudly Defended His Vote For ObamaCare In June. “Mark Begich of Alaska, Mark Pryor of Arkansas, Mary Landrieu of Louisiana and Kay Hagan of North Carolina will face voters in 2014 for the first time since voting for the Affordable Care Act — also known as ‘Obamacare’ — three years ago. They aren’t apologizing for their vote, and several are pursuing an aggressive strategy: Embrace the law, help voters use it and fix what doesn’t work. ‘I don’t run from my votes,’ Begich told The Associated Press. ‘Politicians who sit around and say, ‘That’s controversial so I better run from it,’ just ask for trouble. Voters may not always agree with you, but they respect people who think about these issues and talk about them.’” (Bill Barrow, “2014 Senate Democrats Firm Up Health Care Support,” [The Associated Press](#), 6/15/13)

- **Senator Begich: “I Don’t Run From My Votes.”** (Bill Barrow, “2014 Senate Democrats Firm Up Health Care Support,” [The Associated Press](#), 6/15/13)
- **Senator Begich: “There’s A Lot Of Good That People Will Realize As This All Comes Online.”** (Bill Barrow, “2014 Senate Democrats Firm Up Health Care Support,” [The Associated Press](#), 6/15/13)

Kay Hagan (D-NC) Said ObamaCare Has “A Lot Of Positives”

Senator Kay Hagan (D-NC) Defended ObamaCare In August, Saying There Are “A Lot Of Positives” For Small Businesses In The Law. SEN. HAGAN: “First I want to ask the question, how large is your small business? If it’s fifty employees or less, the new Affordable Care Act doesn’t apply to you at all. So that’s off the equation. But what does benefit a small business is once the new healthcare exchanges come on line, and come on the market, coming in October of this year, small business will be able to purchase health insurance just like large businesses do. They’ll be given options. And some small businesses will actually be eligible for tax credits and for funding to help them purchase that health insurance. So I think there’s a lot of positives here that I want to encourage small businesses to reach out to my office and we can certainly help with information.” (Kay Hagan, [WCCB Interview](#), 8/27/13)

Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) Insisted ObamaCare Is Having A “Real Positive Impact” On People’s Lives

In September, Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) Attacked Republicans For Opposing ObamaCare And Praised The Law, Saying It Is “Having A Real Positive Impact Already On People’s Lives.” “At an event organized by the New Hampshire Women’s Health Network and Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, Senator Shaheen praised the law as the single biggest advancement in women’s health in her lifetime. And she urged participants to fight back against what she calls misinformation. ‘If you listen to the rhetoric in Washington, one would think that when the law goes into effect with the exchanges on October 1st, that the world is gonna come to an end, or certainly, America as we know it,’ says Shaheen. ‘The fact is, it’s having a real positive impact already on people’s lives.’ (Todd Bookman, “Sen. Shaheen Says Health Law Already Having Positive Impact,” [NHPR](#), 9/23/13)

- **Senator Shaheen Called ObamaCare “The Single Biggest Advancement For Women’s Health Really In My Lifetime.”** “During remarks to a conference of the Women’s Health Network at the New Hampshire Audubon Society on Monday, Shaheen said she believes the impact of the act on women and families has been undersold to the American people. ‘This is the single biggest advancement for women’s health really in my lifetime,’ said Shaheen, the former governor who has been campaigning for re-election in 2014.” (Kevin Landrigan, “Sen. Jeanne Shaheen Says Obamacare Is The Biggest Advancement For Women’s Health In Her Lifetime,” [Nashua Telegraph](#), 9/24/13)

ObamaCare “Champion” Bruce Braley (D-IA) Said Iowans Should “Celebrate” The Law

In October, Representative Bruce Braley (D-IA) Was Still Defending ObamaCare, Claiming Iowans Would Save Money Because Of The Law. BRALEY: “It took a long time for our Governor to embrace the expansion of Medicaid, and there’s a waiver request pending before the Secretary that’s kind of a hybrid, but it was passed by the Iowa legislature, which includes the Democrats in charge of the Senate. And what happened is, when the marketplace opened up the pricing on these products is dramatically lower than pricing available to consumers before the Affordable Care Act went into place.” (Bruce Braley, [Bill Press Show Interview](#), 10/9/13)

In 2012, Representative Braley Offered “Strong Support” For ObamaCare And Said People Should “Celebrate” Its Provisions. “At the Medicare event, he offered strong support for President Barack Obama’s signature Affordable Care Act, the expansive health care reform derided by critics as a “government takeover of health care” and a threat to the existing Medicare program for seniors. Braley dismissed such criticism point by point, and argued instead that the reforms are something people should ‘celebrate.’” (Jason Noble, “Braley Prides Himself On Service To Constituents,” [Des Moines Register](#), 9/27/12)

Des Moines Register: “Braley Is A Full-Throated Supporter Of President Barack Obama’s Affordable Care Act.” (Jason Noble, “Medicare Divides Candidates,” [Des Moines Register](#), 9/23/12)

Quad City Times: Braley Is A “Champion” Of ObamaCare. “Braley, a champion of the Affordable Care Act, says it's ‘almost shocking’ to hear Republicans talk about repealing it.” (James Q Lynch, “Braley, Lange Locked In Rematch For Seat,” *Quad-City Times*, 10/28/12)

Gary Peters (D-MI) Celebrated The Third Anniversary Of ObamaCare’s Passage

In March, Representative Gary Peters (D-MI) Celebrated The Third Anniversary Of ObamaCare’s Passage And Attacked Republicans For Refusing To Set Up A State ObamaCare Exchange. “Today U.S. Rep. Gary Peters marked Saturday as the 3rd anniversary of the Affordable Care Act becoming law by highlighting the many ways it’s helping families across Michigan. Peters also voiced his disappointment with Lansing Republicans for putting ideology above practical problem solving by refusing to partner in the health care exchange marketplace.” (Press Release, “Congressman Gary Peters Marks The 3rd Anniversary Of The Affordable Care Act By Highlighting How It’s Already Helping Michiganders,” [Rep. Gary Peters](#), 3/22/13)

- **Representative Peters: “In The Three Years Since The Affordable Care Act Became Law, Thousands Of Michigan Families Have Benefitted From Increased And Improved Health Care Coverage.”** (Press Release, “Congressman Gary Peters Marks The 3rd Anniversary Of The Affordable Care Act By Highlighting How It’s Already Helping Michiganders,” [Rep. Gary Peters](#), 3/22/13)

POLLS NATIONWIDE SHOW OBAMACARE IS INCREASINGLY POISONOUS FOR DEMOCRATS RUNNING IN 2014

A National CBS News Poll Released Wednesday Finds Support For ObamaCare At Its Lowest Level Ever, With 61 Percent Of Respondents Disapproving Of The Law And Just 31 Percent Approving. ([CBS News Poll](#), 1,010 A, MoE 3.0%, 11/15-18/13)

- **“Republicans Are Nearly Unanimous In Their Disapproval Of The Law, And Now More Than Two-Thirds Of Independents Agree. Almost Six In Ten Democrats Continue To Support The Law, But Their Support Has Dropped 16 Points From Last Month - From 74 Percent In October To 58 Percent Today.”** (Sarah Dutton, Jennifer De Pinto, Anthony Salvanto and Fred Backus, “Poll: Obamacare Support, Obama Approval Sink To New Lows,” [CBS News](#), 11/20/13)

A National ABC Poll Released Tuesday Found That Americans Are More Likely To Oppose Than Support A Candidate For Congress Who Favors ObamaCare 37-21 Percent. “The poll produces evidence that the ACA could spell trouble for Democrats in the 2014 midterm elections. Americans by a 16-point margin, 37-21 percent, are more likely to oppose than to support a candidate for Congress who favors Obamacare. That’s opened up from an even score in July 2012. (Using an intensity rating – those who are ‘much’ more or less likely to support a candidate who backs the ACA – it’s still 15 points negative, vs. 2 points last year.)” (Gary Langer, “Botched ACA Rollout Hammers Obama; Job Disapproval Reaches A Career High,” [ABC News](#), 11/19/13)

- **Young Adults Say They Are More Likely To Oppose Than Support A Candidate For Congress Who Favors ObamaCare 31-17 Percent.** ([ABC News/The Washington Post Poll](#), 1006 A, MoE 3.5%, 11/14-17/13)

ObamaCare Is Even A Problem For Democrats In Blue States, Where 31 Percent Say They Are Less Likely To Support A Candidate Who Favors ObamaCare Compared To 25 Percent Who Say They Are More Likely. “The health care law looks most politically hazardous in the states that backed Mitt Romney in 2012; there Americans by 3-1, 46-15 percent, say they’re more inclined to oppose than to support a candidate who favors the law. But the ACA’s no help even in the blue states that backed Obama; while the division is far closer, 31 percent in those states are inclined to oppose an ACA-linked candidate, vs. 25 percent who’d be more apt to support one.” (Gary Langer, “Botched ACA Rollout Hammers Obama; Job Disapproval Reaches A Career High,” [ABC News](#), 11/19/13)

Recent Polls Of 2014 Battleground States Tell The Same Story

North Carolinians Disapprove Of ObamaCare By A 10 Point Margin, With 38 Percent Approving And 48 Percent Disapproving. ([Public Policy Polling](#), 701 RV, MoE 3.7%, 11/8-11/13)

- **69 Percent Of North Carolinians Say The Implementation Of ObamaCare Has Been “Somewhat Unsuccessful” Or “Very Unsuccessful” Versus Just 25% Who Say It Has Been “Somewhat Successful” Or “Very Successful.”** ([Public Policy Polling](#), 701 RV, MoE 3.7%, 11/8-11/13)

Coloradans Disapprove of ObamaCare By A 16 Point Margin, With 40 Percent Approving And 56 Percent Disapproving. ([Quinnipiac Poll](#), 1,206 RV, MoE 2.8%, 11/15-18/13)

- **45 Percent Of Coloradans Say Their Healthcare Will Be Worse One Year From Now Due To ObamaCare, While Just 18 Percent Say It Will Be Better.** ([Quinnipiac Poll](#), 1,206 RV, MoE 2.8%, 11/15-18/13)