



Visions Of Dropped Policies Danced In Their Heads

*On The 8th Day Of ObamaCare, Democrats Gave To Me ... Coverage A'
Dropping*

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ARE SET TO LOSE THEIR EMPLOYER-SPONSORED HEALTH CARE ON ACCOUNT OF OBAMACARE

“Millions Of People Are Expected To Lose Their Employer-Based Healthcare Coverage Over The Next Decade, According To Business Surveys And Estimates By The Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” (Elise Viebeck, “Cancellations Are Coming For Millions More,” [The Hill's Health Watch](#), 11/21/13)

- **Non-Partisan Congressional Budget Office: In 2022, “7 Million Fewer People Will Have Employment Based Health Insurance As A Result” Of ObamaCare.** “In 2022, by CBO and JCT’s estimate, 7 million fewer people will have employment-based health insurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act; in August, that figure was estimated to be about 4 million people.” (“The Budget And Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2013 To 2023,” [Congressional Budget Office](#), 2/5/13)
- **“CBO And JCT’s Projections For 2023 For People Under Age 65 Relative To Prior Law: About 7 Million Fewer People Will Have Employment-Based Health Insurance.”** (“Federal Health Care Spending: Why Is It Growing? What Could Be Done About It?” [Congressional Budget Office](#), 12/13/13)

Health Benefits Consultants Know Of Companies That Will Stop Offering Health Insurance To Their Full-Time Employees. “The breadth of the trend isn't clear, as employers scramble to finalize their 2014 health-care offerings. Analysts have long speculated that the launch of the insurance exchanges could prompt some employers to drop health coverage. But benefits consultants said they know of few companies now providing insurance that won't offer it to full-time workers next year.” (Scott Thrush, “Firms Drop, Rather Than Upgrade, Cheapest Health Plans,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/25/13)

OBAMACARE HAS CREATED UNCERTAINTY FOR EMPLOYERS, SO MUCH THAT THEY HAVE HAD TO DISCONTINUE EMPLOYER-COVERAGE

ObamaCare Has Accelerated An Employer Trend Towards Reducing Coverage. “The ACA is accelerating a trend toward reducing family coverage that has been in place for a number of years at companies of all sizes as employers try to cut costs, according to health insurance brokers. But family coverage is particularly in jeopardy at small companies.” (Joyce M. Rosenberg, “Family Insurance In Jeopardy At Small Companies,” [The Associated Press](#), 8/8/13)

The IFA Poll Shows That “The Employer Mandate Will Almost Double The Percentage Of Franchise-Owned Businesses And More Than Triple The Percentage Of Non-Franchise Businesses That Will Not Offer Health Care.” “Twenty-eight (28) percent of franchise and non-franchise businesses surveyed report that the employer mandate will mean they will drop coverage for their employees. In effect, among this segment of businesses, the employer mandate will almost double the percentage of franchise-owned businesses and more than triple the percentage of non-franchise businesses that will not offer health care.” ([IFA/U.S. Chamber Of Commerce/Public Opinion Strategies](#), 414 Franchise-Owned And Non-Franchised Owned Businesses With 40 To 500 Employees, 11/13/13)

Employers Are Having To Drop Health Care Coverage In Light Of Higher Health Care Costs And ObamaCare Mandates

“More Than 1,200 Employers” Are Dropping Their Employer Sponsored Health Care Plans. “The U.S. arm of Sweden's Securitas AB SECU-B.SK is among more than 1,200 employers that offer the kind of bare-bones health plans that must be phased out beginning Jan. 1 under the health-care law.” (Scott Thrush, “Firms Drop, Rather Than Upgrade, Cheapest Health Plans”, [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/25/13)

“The Nation's Largest Provider Of Security Guards Plans To Discontinue Its Lowest-Cost Health Plans.” “The nation's largest provider of security guards plans to discontinue its lowest-cost health plans and steer roughly 55,000 workers to new government-sponsored insurance exchanges for coverage next year, in the latest sign of the fraying ties between employment and health care.” (Scott Thrush, “Firms Drop, Rather Than Upgrade, Cheapest Health Plans”, [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/25/13)

Home Depot Is Set “To End Medical Coverage For About 20,000 Part-Time Employees.” “Home Depot Inc. (HD), the world's largest home improvement retailer, plans to end medical coverage for about 20,000 part-time employees and direct them to government-sponsored exchanges scheduled to open next month as companies revamp benefits to fit the U.S. Affordable Care Act.” (Chris Burritt, “Home Depot Sending 20,000 Part-Timers To Health Exchanges,” [Bloomberg](#), 9/19/13)

- **The Move Affects 5 Percent Of “Home Depot’s 340,000 Employees” That Are Enrolled In That Plan.** “Employees with fewer than 30 hours a week will no longer be offered limited liability medical coverage, Stephen Holmes, a spokesman, said today by telephone. About 5 percent of Atlanta-based Home Depot’s 340,000 employees are enrolled in that plan.” (Chris Burritt, “Home Depot Sending 20,000 Part-Timers To Health Exchanges,” [Bloomberg](#), 9/19/13)
- **“Home Depot Said It Is Maintaining Coverage For Full-Time Workers, Though Those People Will Pay More Next Year, Reflecting A Rise In The Cost Of Health Care.”** (Chris Burritt, “Home Depot Sending 20,000 Part-Timers To Health Exchanges,” [Bloomberg](#), 9/19/13)

Due To ObamaCare And Rising Health Care Costs Walgreens Has Had To Shift Its Employees From Their Employee Health Plans To Private Insurance Exchanges. “Rising health-care costs and a climate of change brought about by the new federal health law are prompting American corporations to revisit the pact they've long had with employees over medical benefits. ... On Wednesday, the drugstore giant is expected to disclose a plan to provide payments to eligible employees for the subsidized purchase of insurance starting in 2014.” (Timothy W. Martin and Christopher Weaver, “Walgreen To Give Workers Payments To Buy Health Plans,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/18/13)

- **160,000 Employees Will Lose Their Current Coverage.** “The plan will affect roughly 160,000 employees, and will require them to shop for coverage on a private health-insurance marketplace.” (Timothy W. Martin and Christopher Weaver, “Walgreen To Give Workers Payments To Buy Health Plans,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/18/13)

Darden Restaurants And Trader Joes Previously Announced That They Would Shift Their Employees To The ObamaCare Exchanges. “Other big employers, including Darden Restaurants Inc., Home Depot Inc. and Trader Joe's Co., say they will stop offering health insurance to part-time workers, and will direct those employees to the state exchanges. Darden, Home Depot and Trader Joe's previously offered mini-meds to their part timers.” (Scott Thrush, “Firms Drop, Rather Than Upgrade, Cheapest Health Plans,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/25/13)

The Fairfax County Water Authority Will Likely Drop Health Care Coverage For Its 400 Employees Due To ObamaCare's ‘Cadillac Tax’ On Generous Health-Care Plans. “The Fairfax County Water Authority said that it will likely drop insurance coverage for its nearly 400 employees if taxes on generous health-care plans take effect as planned in 2018 under the federal Affordable Care Act.” (Laura Vozzella, “Fairfax Utility: ObamaCare Will Likely Lead To Dropped Coverage,” [The Washington Post](#), 10/2/13)

- **The Tax Would Cost The Utility \$60,000 In The First Year, And \$7 Million Per Year By 2028.** “Under the ACA employers that provide relatively expensive coverage will have to pay taxes to the federal government starting in 2018. Those taxes would cost the authority \$60,000 in the first year and shoot up to nearly \$7 million a year by 2028, the authority said in a letter sent this week to Virginia’s congressional delegation.” (Laura Vozzella, “Fairfax Utility: ObamaCare Will Likely Lead To Dropped Coverage,” [The Washington Post](#), 10/2/13)

A Houston Home Construction Owner Says That ObamaCare Has Forced Him To End A Health Care Plan That His Employees Loved. “Marek Family of Cos., a Houston-based home builder, began offering a mini-med about eight years ago, after executives saw that few hourly workers were enrolled in the company's more traditional insurance, said Larry Williams, director of human resources. Marek pays the full premium cost for its plan, which limits an employee's benefits to \$60,000 a year. ‘Employees loved that plan, that's what they wanted,’ Mr. Williams said. He said Marek is considering a plan like Guadalupe's with a relatively high deductible, as well as a plan offering limited benefits that complies with the law. Mr. Williams expects those options to be more costly and said employees likely will have to contribute.” (Scott Thrush, “Firms Drop, Rather Than Upgrade, Cheapest Health Plans,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/25/13)

Retirees Are Having Their Plans Changed Due To ObamaCare

IBM Will “Move About 110,000 Retirees Off Its Company-Sponsored Health Plan.” “International Business Machines Corp. IBM plans to move about 110,000 retirees off its company-sponsored health plan and instead give them a payment to buy coverage on a health-insurance exchange, in a sign that even big, well-capitalized employers aren't likely to keep providing the once-common benefits as medical costs continue to rise.” (Spencer Ante, “IBM To Move Retirees Off Health Plan,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/7/13)

- **The Rising Cost Of Health Care Made IBM's “Current Plan Unsustainable Without Big Premium Increases.”** “The move, which will affect all IBM retirees once they become eligible for Medicare, will relieve the technology company of the responsibility of managing retirement health-care benefits. IBM said the growing cost of care makes its current plan unsustainable without big premium increases.” (Spencer Ante, “IBM To Move Retirees Off Health Plan,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/7/13)

Over 300 Companies Have Made The Shift, Including Sears And Darden Restaurants. “The pace has picked up recently, with IBM among a growing number of large, successful companies that are moving retirees to exchanges. Extend Health said it has signed up about 300 companies, including large corporations such as DuPont Co. and Caterpillar Inc. ... The approach was adopted last year by Sears Holdings Corp. and Darden Restaurants Inc.” (Spencer Ante, “IBM To Move Retirees Off Health Plan,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/7/13)

- **Dupont And Caterpillar Shifted It's Retirees From The Company's Health Plan.** "DuPont began using the Extend Health exchange for Medicare-eligible retirees in January. The move was done to stabilize costs and simplify administration of retiree-health benefits, said a DuPont spokeswoman. A Caterpillar spokeswoman said the company has been an Extend Health client since 2009." (Spencer Ante, "IBM To Move Retirees Off Health Plan," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/7/13)
- **Time Warner Also Chose To Move Its Retirees From The Company's Health Plan.** "The latest indication: Media-company Time Warner Inc. plans to move its U.S. retirees from company-administered health plans to private exchanges, according to a person familiar with the matter. The company will allocate funds in special accounts that retirees can use to go shop for coverage, the person said." (Spencer Ante, "Time Warner Joins IBM In Health Shift For Retirees," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 9/8/13)

Due To ObamaCare, Employee Spouses Are Losing Coverage

UPS Announced That It Would Drop 15,000 Employee Spouses Nationwide From Its Health Care Plan Due To ObamaCare. "United Parcel Service Inc. plans to remove thousands of spouses from its medical plan because they are eligible for coverage elsewhere. The Atlanta-based logistics company points to the Affordable Care Act, or ObamaCare, as a big reason for the decision, reports Kaiser Health News....According to Kaiser, UPS (NYSE: UPS) told white-collar workers two months ago that 15,000 working spouses eligible for coverage by their own employers would be excluded from the UPS plan in 2014." (Carla Caldwell, "UPS To Drop 15,000 Spouses From Insurance, Cites ObamaCare," [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#), 8/21/13)

- **ObamaCare Was Cited As A "Big Reason For The Decision."** "The Atlanta-based logistics company points to the Affordable Care Act, or ObamaCare, as a big reason for the decision, reports Kaiser Health News." (Carla Caldwell, "UPS To Drop 15,000 Spouses From Insurance, Cites ObamaCare," [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#), 8/21/13)
- **Higher Health Care Costs Will Also Trickle Down To Families.** "UPS spouses may have difficulty finding similar coverage at their own employers. The \$500 in-network family deductible for UPS's basic plan, for example, is less than the nationwide average of \$733, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation." (Jay Hancock, "UPS Won't Insure Spouses Of Some Employees," [Kaiser Health News](#), 8/21/13)

Some Working Spouses Of University Of Virginia Employees Will Lose Access To Coverage.

"Changes to the plan that affect working spouses of U.Va. employees will take effect Jan. 1. On that date, all spouses of covered employees will no longer be covered by the University plan unless the employee has provided certification of the spouse's continued eligibility. Spouses who have access to 'affordable health care that provides minimum value,' as defined by the Affordable Care Act, through another employer will no longer be eligible for the U.Va. plan." (Press Release, "University Employees Will See Significant Changes to Health Plan This Year," [University Of Virginia](#), 8/21/13)

- **"Starting Jan. 1, Spouses Who Have Access To Coverage Through Their Own Employer Will No Longer Be Eligible For Coverage...** Provisions of the federal Affordable Care Act are projected to add \$7.3 million to the cost of the University health plan in 2014 alone... Spouses who have access to 'affordable health care that provides minimum value,' as defined by the Affordable Care Act, through another employer will no longer be eligible for the U.Va. plan." ("University Employees Will See Significant Changes to Health Plan This Year," [University of Virginia](#), 8/21/13)