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Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom: Obamacare’s Days Are Numbered

As SCOTUS Agrees to Hear Obamacare Premium Subsidies Case, Health Care Law Architect Says Law Banked on “Stupidity of the American Voter”

ST. PAUL, Minn.—In an announcement that could portend the end of the disastrous Obamacare system, the U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday announced it would hear the case challenging the legality of the health care law’s subsidies.

Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom (CCHF, www.cchfreedom.org), a Minnesota-based national organization dedicated to preserving patient-centered health care and protecting patient and privacy rights, filed an amicus brief in the case. CCHF President and Co-founder Twila Brase said if the Court rules for the plaintiffs, the attempt at government-run health care will be gutted to its core.

“The exchange infrastructure is the heart and soul of Obamacare,” Brase said. “A victory for the plaintiffs in this case would mean the infrastructure would fall apart. Without subsidies, millions won’t be able to afford the high-priced premiums of Obamacare, and people will simply choose not to enroll in the system. This will lead to a death spiral, where premiums continue to rise higher and higher as not enough young, healthy Americans will buy expensive coverage to support the older, sicker Americans in Obamacare.”

The case stems from legal challenges to the premium subsidies provided by the federal government to Obamacare enrollees. Under the law, subsidies are not authorized for states that rely on the federal exchange but only for states that set up their own exchanges. The vast majority of states, however—37—either have chosen not to set up their own exchanges or have started them but then backed away because of various problems.

In July, two federal appeals courts issued contradictory rulings on the issue, with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit saying subsidies cannot be awarded through the federal exchange and the U.S Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruling that subsidies can be awarded through the federal exchange. A federal district court in Oklahoma has also ruled that subsidies cannot be issued through Healthcare.gov
“A plain reading of the text of the law as written by Congress clearly indicates that only states with state-based exchanges can offer subsidies,” Brase continued. “This administration cannot simply interpret the law in whatever way they want when the way they wrote it doesn’t turn out as they wanted it to. Now, for the third time, Obamacare is heading back to the Supreme Court. And this time may very well signal the death knell for this disastrous attempt at government-run health care.”

On the heels of the Court’s announcement came the disclosure of a video of an Oct. 17 panel on the passage of the health care law. In the video, MIT economics professor and Obamacare architect Jonathan Gruber says the White House banked on “the stupidity of the American voter” in passing Obamacare. Gruber noted that if the bill had explicitly said that healthy people would pay into the system and sick people would get money, the law would not have passed. “Lack of transparency is a huge political advantage,” he said.

Celebrating its 20th year, Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom is a patient-centered national health freedom organization based in St. Paul, Minn. CCHF exists to protect health care choices and patient privacy. CCHF sponsors the daily, 60-second radio feature, Health Freedom Minute, which airs on more than 150 stations nationwide on the American Family Radio Network and 90-plus stations on the Bott Radio Network. Listeners can learn more about the agenda behind proposed health care initiatives and steps they can take to protect their health care choices, rights and privacy.

CCHF president and co-founder Twila Brase, R.N., has been called one of the “100 Most Powerful People in Health Care” and one of “Minnesota’s 100 Most Influential Health Care Leaders.” Brase, a public health nurse, has been interviewed by CNN, Fox News, Minnesota Public Radio, NBC Nightly News, NBC’s Today Show, NPR, New York Public Radio, the Associated Press, Modern Healthcare, TIME, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The Washington Times, among others. She is at the forefront of informing the public of crucial health issues, such as intrusive wellness and prevention initiatives in Obamacare, patient privacy, informed consent, the dangers of “evidence-based medicine” and the implications of state and federal health care reform.

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