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For Immediate Release
November 7, 2012

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CCHF Discusses Impact of Obama's Re-election on Implementation of the ACA

*States Must Continue to Resist Obamacare's State Exchanges to Preserve
Privacy, Quality of Care, Access to Doctors for Citizens*

Key Facts:

- Obama's re-election could fast track his principal "achievement," the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
- The law, commonly referred to as the ACA, has been shown by many to decrease benefits and quality of care and access to doctors as well as impinge on privacy.
- The [Citizens' Council for Health Freedom](http://www.cchffreeedom.org), or **CCHF**, is urging states to strongly resist implementation of Obamacare's state health insurance exchanges, as these are the cornerstone that allows Obamacare to continue and the instrument by which the federal government controls health care and tracks compliance with the ACA.
- CCHF has sent certified letters to all 50 state governors, requesting that they refuse to cooperate in the establishment of any state-run or federally-run exchange.

ST. PAUL, Minn. – With the election behind us and President Obama elected to a second term in office, it is clear that his administration will be emboldened to finish the implementation of his quintessential first-term "achievement," Obamacare, regardless of the cost, problems, or irreversible – and potentially devastating – changes it forces on the landscape of American medicine.

State cooperation is essential to the implementation of Obamacare, thus empowering states to limit its effects by refusing to establish the exchanges, which are essential to the Obamacare program. Exchanges impose federal controls, track citizen and employer compliance with insurance requirements, and share private data with numerous federal bureaucracies and

individual entities. The exchange is invasive: it unnecessarily shares private data, interferes with the patient-doctor relationship, and forces employers to reveal such private information about employees, potentially without their knowledge and against their will. The **CCHF** remains emphatic in its call to states to refuse implementation of a health insurance exchange in their state.

“These exchanges are clearly the hallmark of Obamacare and they do nothing but take power from the citizens and the states and hand it over to the federal government,” said Twila Brase, President of the Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom. “Government healthcare exchanges are not the one-stop-shop marketplaces that they are touted to be; they invade privacy, track compliance with the controversial mandate, may impinge on care, and will decimate state budgets and states must refuse to deploy them.”

Assertion of state sovereignty and refusal to institute exchanges are the best options, coupled with congressional defunding, for stopping Obamacare. In its letter to the 50 governors, the **CCHF** included 11 bullet points as rationale for resistance, including:

- All exchanges under the ACA are federal exchange under federal control.
- The ACA does not and cannot require states to set up state-funded federal exchanges.
- The exchange is not a simple one-stop shopping “marketplace.”
- State-funded exchange will cost \$10 - \$100 million per year to operate.
- Medicaid expenses will rise because the exchanges will force people into Medicaid.
- The exchange will allow the IRS to track insurance status and enforce penalties.
- Employers face significant penalties if employees buy from a state-run exchange.

“The business climate in the U.S. is already terrible; attacking another sector – medicine – is not the way to grow the economy,” remarked Brase. “The loss of doctors anticipated in the next five years as a result of Obamacare will have adverse effects on patient care and access, and will further shutter the economies of many states.”

CCHF urges states not to cooperate in establishing exchanges, and is mailing letters to every governor in the United States requesting that they refuse exchange implementation.

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Twila Brase is president and co-founder of the **Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom**. She has been called one of the “100 Most Powerful People in Health Care” and one of “Minnesota’s 100 Most Influential Health Care Leaders.” The Council’s efforts have stopped government-issued treatment directives, added informed consent requirements for access to patient data and defeated a proposed Health Insurance Exchange. Brase’s daily radio commentary, **Health Freedom Minute**, is a 60-second radio address on pressing health care issues. She 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.