September 21, 2018

**Health Plans Win Again and Again**

The Affordable Care Act is a windfall for health plans. For example, UnitedHealth Group’s stock is up 1,400 percent, and WellCare, which administers Medicaid, is up 4,000 percent.

And when President Trump said no to the law’s unfunded cost-sharing reduction subsidies, the plans simply raised their silver-medal premiums to get more dollars through the law’s premium subsidies. And although Trump suspended $10.4 billion in Obamacare risk-adjustment payments, they were continued a few weeks later. And now, a federal court has ruled that health plans need not report or return overpayments in the Medicare Advantage program. Witness the power of federal law to redistribute your money to health plans.

“Insurers’ Incredible Bull Market,” Sam Baker, Axios, August 20, 2018:  

“CMS to Continue Risk Adjustment Payments to Insurers,” Susan Morse, Healthcare Finance, July 25, 2018:  

“Federal Court Nixes CMS Overpayment Rule, Handing a Big Win to Medicare Advantage Insurers,” Evan Sweeney, FierceHealthPayer, September 7, 2018:  

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 47 states:  
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