



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

Health Freedom Minute

January 25, 2012

Essential Benefit Sidestep on Public Transparency

Before Christmas, the Administration issued a bulletin on required essential health benefits under Obamacare. The law allows the Secretary of HHS to mandate what medical treatments must be covered by all policies regardless of cost or conscience.

Now five GOP leaders in Congress have challenged the Secretary. In a January 13 letter, they say that the use of a bulletin rather than a regulation allowed the Administration to sidestep a regulatory requirement to analyze and report the cost of these mandates on health insurance premiums and taxpayers. Any public comments can also be ignored because it's just a bulletin. And they say the holiday release shows how Obama's claims of transparency ring false.

Sources: Letter to Secretary Sebelius, January 13, 2012, signed by Senators Michael Enzi and Orrin Hatch and U.S. Reps. Dave Camp, Fred Upton, and John Kline.

http://ccio.cms.gov/resources/files/Files2/12162011essential_health_benefits_bulletin.pdf
"Essential Health Benefits Bulletin," Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, HHS, December 16, 2011.

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

The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 37 states: Mornings M-Th at AM1280 (The Patriot) in MN and 91.5 AM WHKC (FreedomFM) in OH, afternoons on American Family Radio, and daily on the Bott Radio Network.