Public Opposition to Federal Control Rises

Welcome to the Health Freedom Minute. This is Twila Brase, president of Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

Surprisingly, Republicans have long supported entitlement programs. A majority of Republicans voted for Social Security in 1935 and Medicare in 1965. Republicans opposed to entitlement programs also have a long history of losing in the polls. Think Barry Goldwater in 1964. Even President Reagan sustained Medicare. He raised the payroll tax and imposed price controls on treatments.

But public opinion is shifting. People are now less willing to surrender their control to the feds. For instance, since 2009, those supporting increased Medicare spending dropped by 13 percent; those who want increased spending for health care in general dropped 20 percent. What could a conservative Republican leader today successfully propose to limit or eliminate? It’s time to find out.

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“Has the Fight Against Obamacare Morphed into a Fight Against Government-Run Health Care?”
John Graham, Pacific Research Institute, March 6, 2011.

*This HFM originally aired on April 12, 2011.