

A not-for-profit health and tax policy research organization

Health Care Reform: What To Do Now?

Grace-Marie Turner September 21, 2012 Georgia Public Policy Foundation















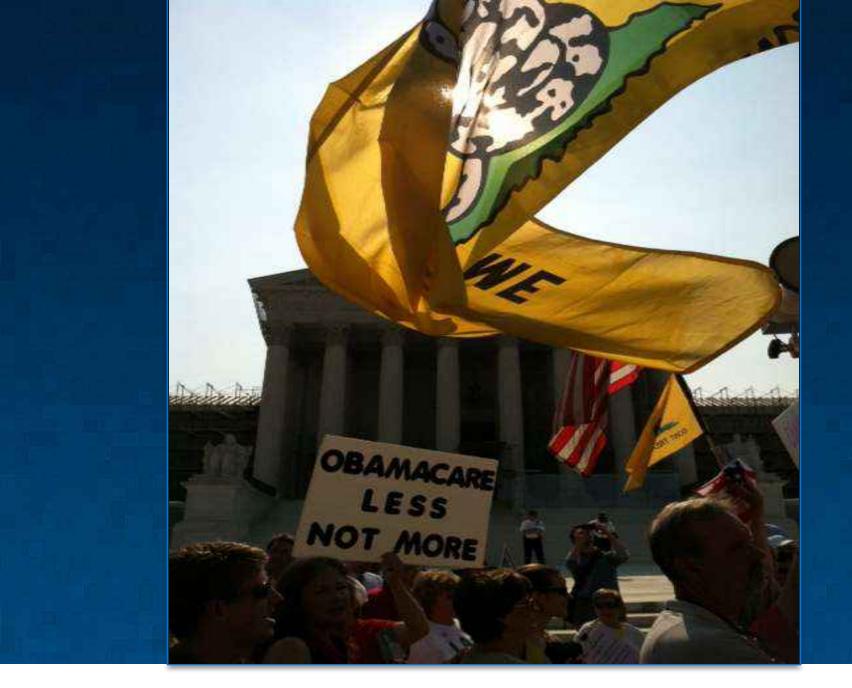












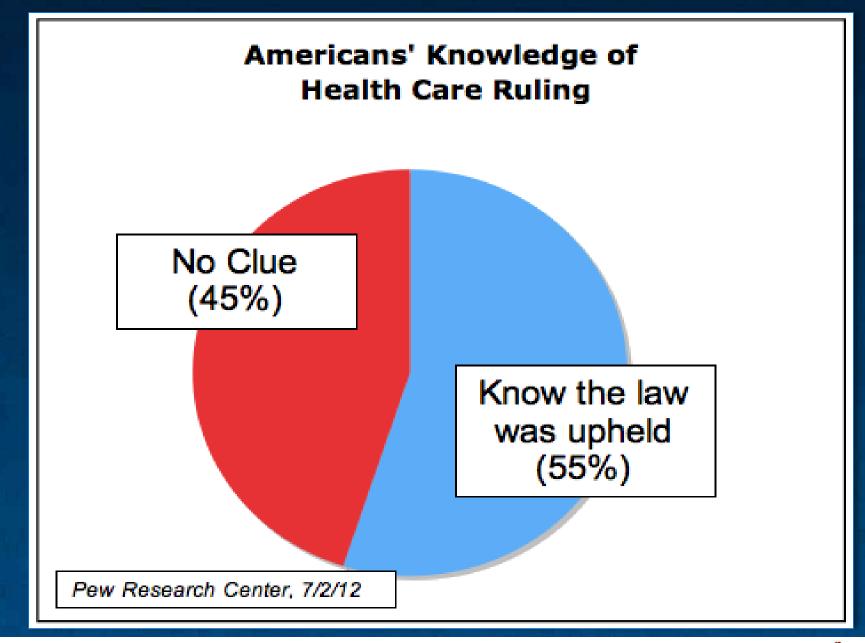














Americans agreed on goals for health reform...

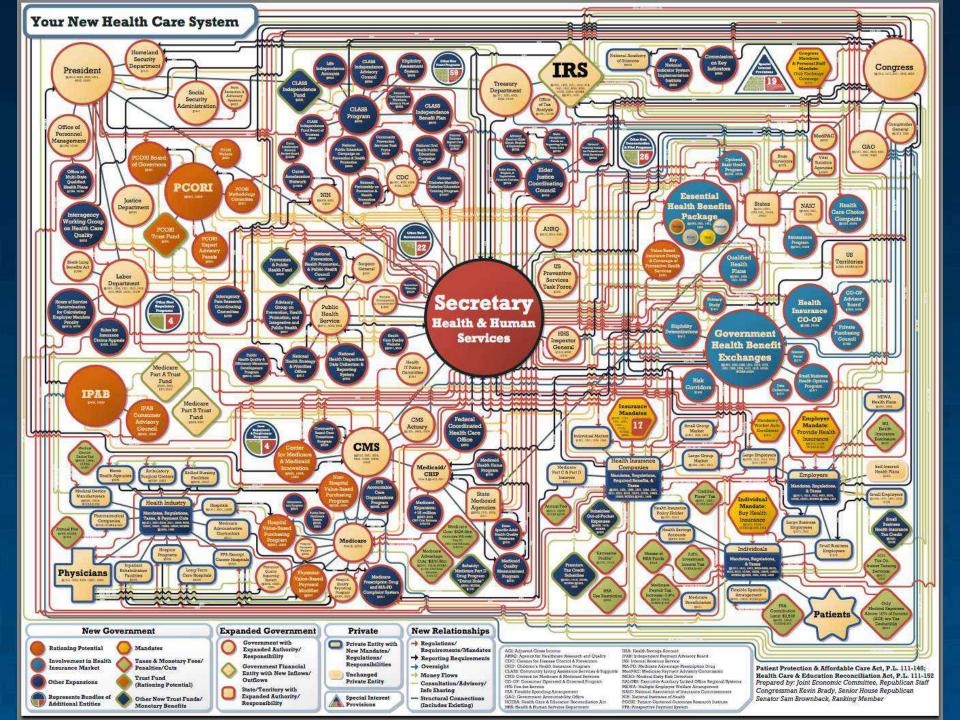
- The U.S. needs health reform to:
 - make coverage more affordable
 - assure quality, and
 - expand access to insurance
- Most people rate their own coverage as good or excellent
- They want stability. Change is for others.



Americans' views of health law after Supreme Court decision

- Americans say it will make things worse rather than better for taxpayers, businesses, doctors, and those who currently have health insurance.
- Health care will be an extremely or very important issue for 82% of Americans in deciding their vote for the president in November.
- Opposition to the law is higher now than before the Supreme Court decision.



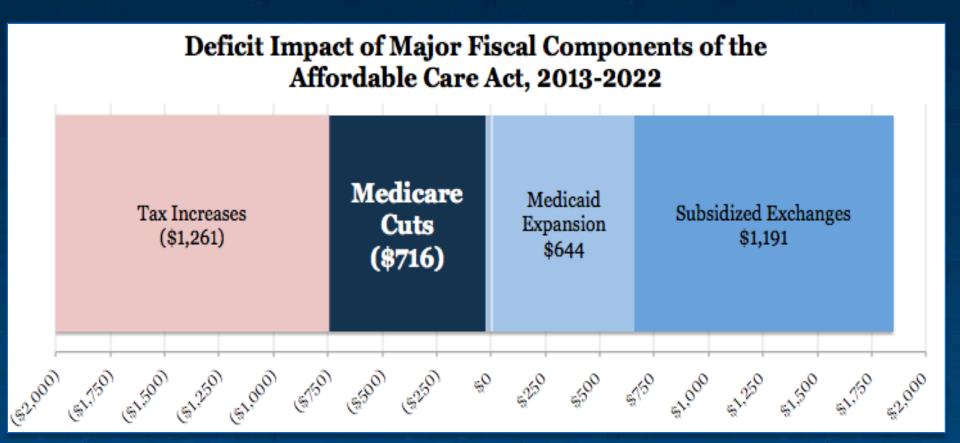


What supporters highlight:

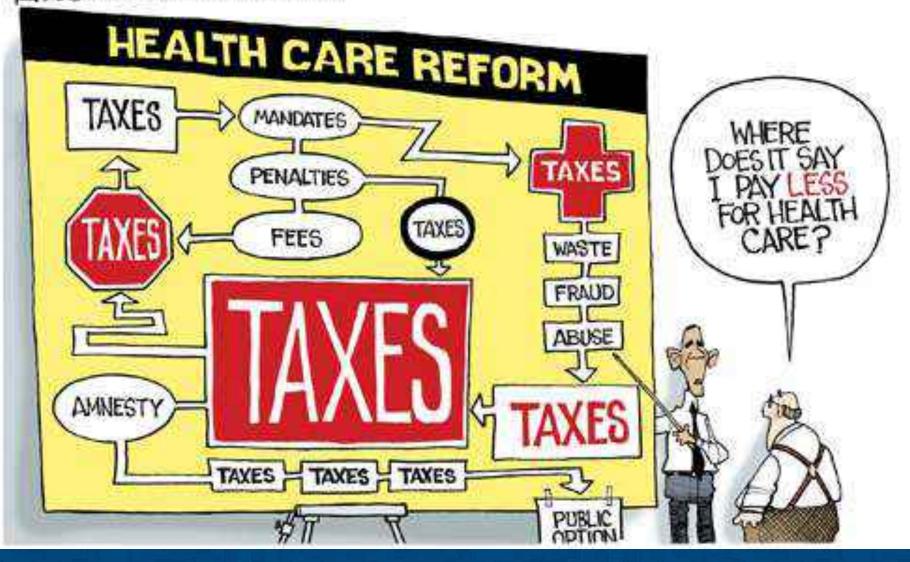
- -"Free" preventive care
- Allowing "children" up to age 26 on parent's policies
- Pools for pre-existing condition policies
- -\$250 for seniors with high drug costs

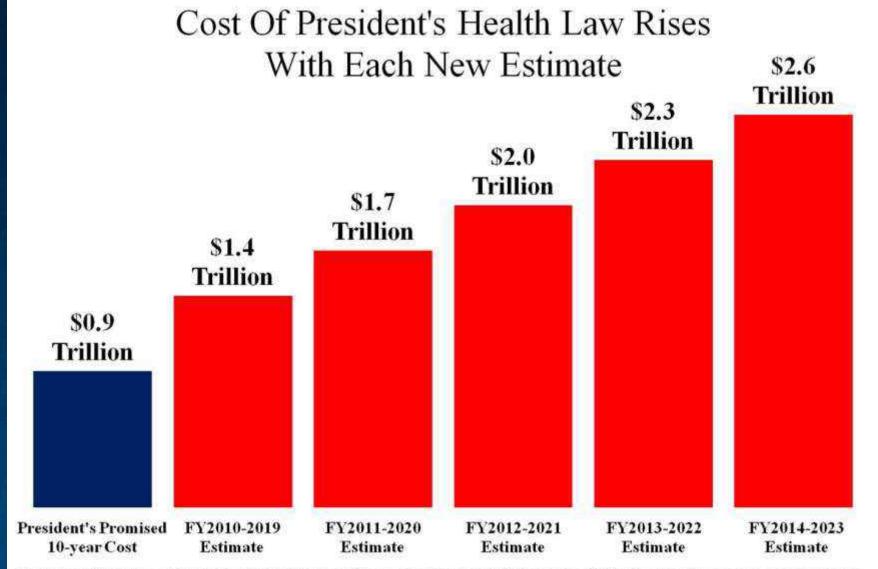


The health law in one graph









Estimates of the gross outlays under the President's health care law in nominal dollars using CBO estimates of major coverage provisions, as well as Senate Budget Committee Republican projections based on CBO estimates of the remaining costs.

Sources: CBO. Produced by SBC Republican staff, Ranking Member Jeff Sessions || http://budget.senate.gov/republican

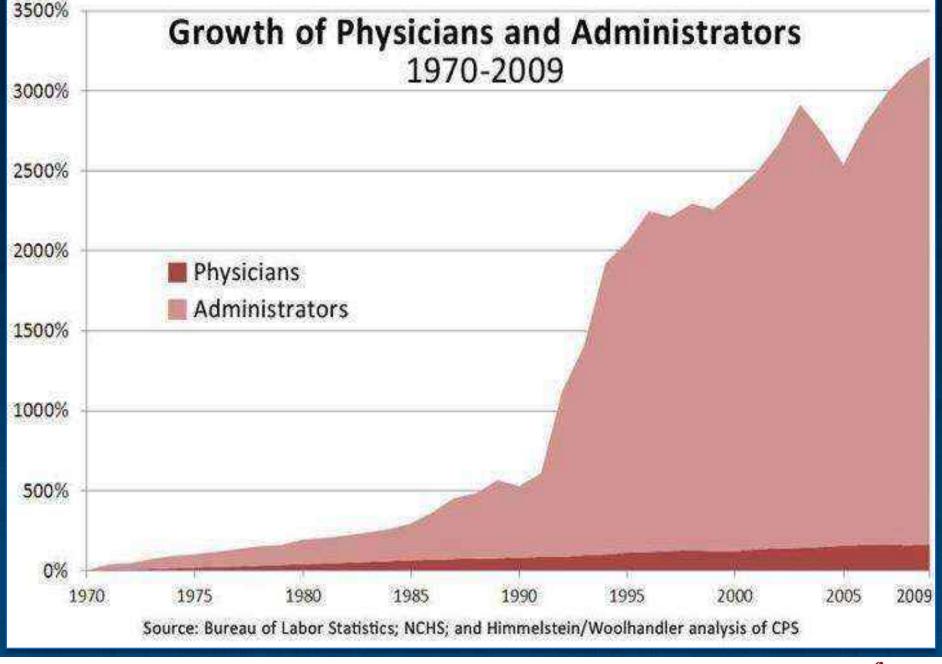


Generous Subsidies in Examples: Exchanges

- A person earning \$42,000 a year with a family of 4 qualifies for \$14,759 in new health insurance subsidies
- A single person earning \$20,600 qualifies for \$5,156 in new health insurance subsidies

But only if employer doesn't offer coverage or if it's not "affordable" (costs >9.5% of income)

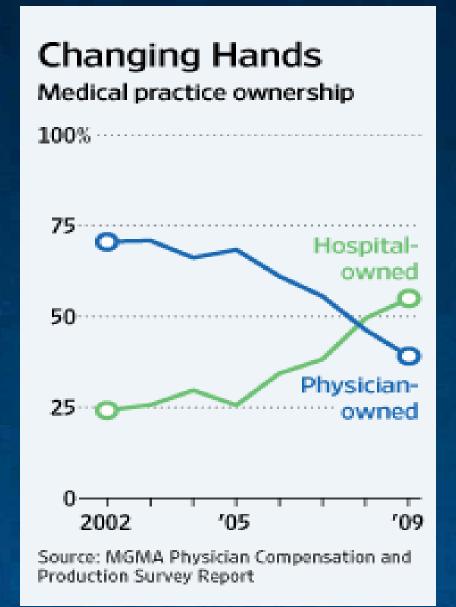






Medical Practice Ownership

40% of doctors say they will quit practice in 2014 if the law takes effect

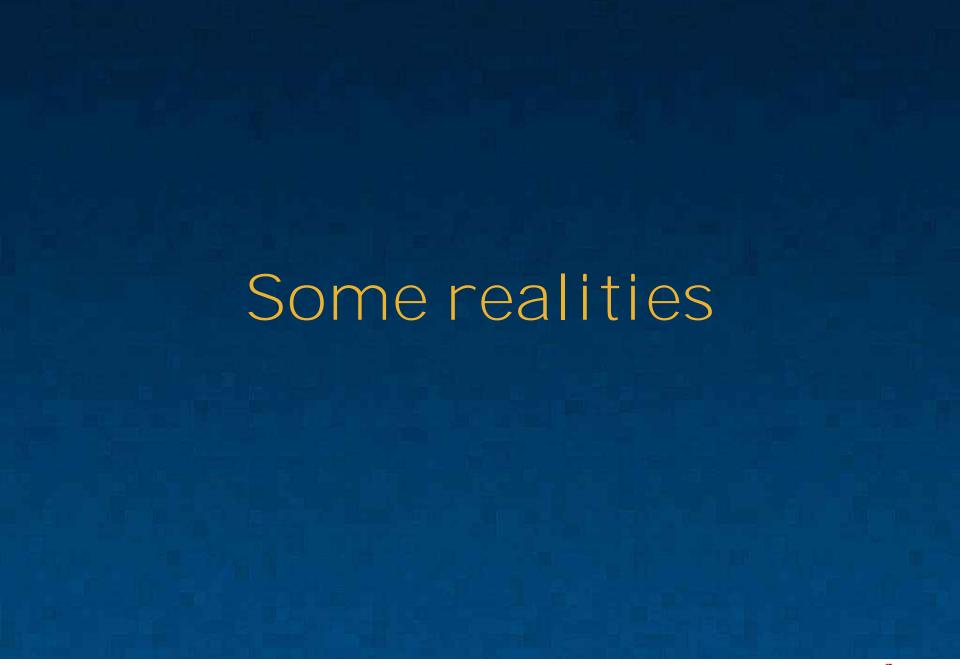


"When the Doctor Has a Boss. More Physicians Are Going to Work for Hospitals Rather Than Hanging a Shingle" By ANNA WILDE MATHEWS. The Wall Street Journal Nov. 8, 2010

Health care in 2012

- Legislation
 Depends upon the outcome of the election
- Regulation
 13,000+ pages so far
- Legal
 Other court challenges continue
- Political
 The voters will ultimately decide on Nov. 6







Other nations move toward change



- > Consumerism
- ➤ Value of private enterprise and competition
- Doctor/patient relationship
- Decentralized decision-making



What we know for sure

- CHOICE: Americans value innovation, diversity and choice to accommodate 300 million people
- FOCUS ON THE PATIENT: They want doctors and patients, not government, to make health care decisions
- VALUE IN HEALTH SPENDING: To realize the promise of personalized medicine and achieve overall cost saving, we must break down payment silos

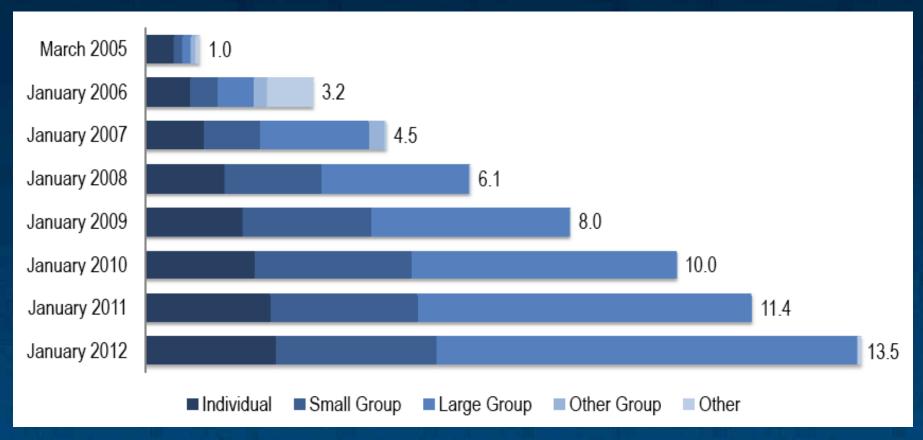


Starting a fresh conversation

Engaging patients as partners in managing health costs and getting the best value for health care dollars



Growth of HSA-Qualified High-Deductible Health Plan March 2005 to January 2012



Note: Companies reported enrollment in the large- and small-group markets according to their internal reporting standards, or by state-specific requirements for each state. The "Other Group" category contains enrollment for companies that could not break down their group membership into large- and small-group categories within the deadline for reporting. The "Other" category was necessary to accommodate companies that were able to provide information on the total number of people covered by HSA/HDHP policies, but were not able to provide a breakdown by market category within the deadline for reporting



CDHC is many things...

- A constellation of offerings that give consumers more power and control over health care decisions
- New tools include:
 - HSAs, HRAs
 - New chronic care management programs
 - Consumer-focused centers such as MinuteClinics and RediClinics
 - Information support tools



CDHC plans are moderating costs

*Consumer-directed health plans show that realigning incentives can help states, employers, and consumers save money while boosting prevention and wellness



Total health benefit cost increases per employee



Options for states...

- Smart Medicaid reform
 - -Healthy Indiana Plan
 - -Florida's Medicaid Reform Pilot
 - -Rhode Island Global Waiver
- Vulnerable populations in danger
 - Those already on Medicaid face more competition for fewer physicians
 - More on Medicaid shifts costs to private payers, forcing more to drop coverage



Americans agreed on goals for health reform...

- The U.S. needs health reform to:
 - make coverage more affordable
 - assure quality, and
 - expand access to insurance
- Targeted subsidies for the uninsured
- Portable insurance, equal tax treatment
- More functional high-risk pools
- Cutting Medicaid's red tape



The future?



- The global move toward consumerism is real, driven by greater patient demand for more control over decisions.
- Health overhaul is law and will fundamentally change the U.S. health sector. But I believe it will be amended significantly before 2014.



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Why ObamaCare Is Wrong for America

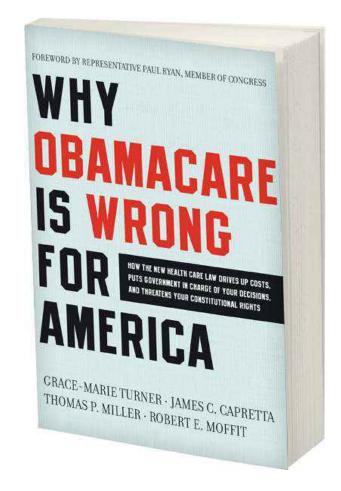
How does the health care law drive up costs?

Is your doctor really in charge of your health care decisions?

Are your Constitutional rights threatened?

Discover the law's impact on your life in a new book from four nationally recognized health policy experts

Published by Broadside Books, an imprint of HarperCollins



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