



The Truth

The Truth Watch weekly newsletter

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“For You have been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat; for the blast of the terrible ones is a storm against the wall.” (Isaiah 25:4)

“Medical insurance is not a right; rights cannot be given or taken away. They are inalienable. Medical insurance is a benefit that is provided by someone. America can and should provide care for those who are indigent, but should do so wisely.” –Dave



WE the People have a medical insurance problem. The problem is that we have evolved into a people that feels entitled to health care.

Prior to World War II, employer-provided medical insurance was almost unheard of. It was after the war, when many veterans returned, became highly marketable, especially gaining higher education provided through the GI Bill, that employers had to sweeten the employment pot. Health care, which was and is provided for the military, was a benefit that prospective employees desired.

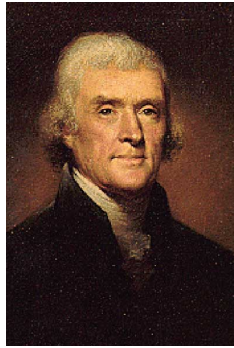
Five generations later, America is still trying to figure out how to provide health care to its citizens. With the bureaucratic and financial fiasco that is ObamaCare, the Trump Administration and Congressional Republicans are trying to offer an alternative.

However, the proposal presented this past week is a far cry from the promises of President Trump and incumbent Republicans made during this past election. What is being labeled as RyanCare, RINOCare, or ObamaCare 2.0, House Republicans have pretty much put lipstick on a pig and called it good. All with the backing of President Trump.

I understand the Senate will be where the fight is going to be for repeal and replace of ObamaCare, but Congressional Republicans are once again giving in without a fight.

Why is it that Republicans always seem to acquiesce to the road most traveled and least resistant? It is because our congressional leaders are moral cowards. I even told my pastor that while I agree with him I was confident in President Trump, the same two milquetoast leaders, Mitch McConnell and Paul Ryan, were in place. Now with President Trump backing those two on repeal and replace, conservatives are once again betrayed.

FROM THE FOUNDERS



Defenders of ObamaCare will make the case that health care is a natural right. Some even quote Thomas Jefferson to defend their case. As is usually the case with our Founding Fathers, Jefferson’s belief on health is taken out of context.

“Be good, be learned, and be industrious, and you will not want the aid of travelling to render you precious to your country, dear to your friends, happy within yourself. I repeat my advice to take a great deal of exercise, and on foot. Health is the first requisite after morality.” Thomas Jefferson, [Letter to Peter Carr](#), August 10, 1787

Families USA describes itself as “The Voice for Health Care Consumers.” What they are is an advocacy for mandatory health care enrollment. In a blog [post](#) dated November 15, 2010, they attempt to make the case that Thomas Jefferson “would be nothing short of proud of our progress” as it relates to the national oversight and regulation of health care. While it is true that Jefferson believed that health care should be as safe as possible and that bad medical facilities should be made to improve or closed if they failed to, it is a stretch to equate his concerns with tacit approval of a national health care system.

It must be remembered that Jefferson was a strong proponent of states’ powers and individual responsibility. Jefferson was indeed a charitable and generous man. He was not a proponent of such charity and generosity being coerced by the government through excessive taxation. Those who could not provide for themselves should be aided by those who could. That is what the moral man does. It is biblical to help those who cannot help themselves. Those who will not, or put themselves in precarious positions from making poor life choices will learn and repent of such behavior.

Even so, emergency medical care is required by law. Hospitals cannot turn away those needing immediate medical attention cannot be turned away because of lack of ability to pay for such care. Jefferson would have approved of that, as I believe would have most Founders. The current and proposed system of national health care is not what the Founders envisioned for our republic. We have much better options.

FROM THE PULPIT

“One thing the mounting conflict over the Affordable Care Act shows is that the cultural divide between Christians and pagan America is growing wider. Increasingly, Christian convictions do not “make sense” to hardened secularists. In such a situation, our commitment to live boldly according to God's Word is greater, even under persecution. Simultaneously, the need for us to give a clear, gracious, and steadfast testimony to the gospel is more greatly needed now than ever before.” Pastor Rick Phillips, “Christians in Conflict over Obamacare” [article](#), January, 2013.

Currently I am teaching a discipleship class titled “The Insanity of Obedience.” Last week’s topic was on persecution, which is primarily the main theme. I stated that America is not really facing persecution. One woman in the class rightly pointed out that some Christians have and are indeed facing persecution for refusing to provide services that violate their religious convictions. In his article, Pastor Phillips writes of Christian businesses and religious institutions who have for the last 3-4 years been fighting ObamaCare mandates that violate their religious liberty protected by the [1st Amendment](#).

The new health care plan being supported by President Trump and Speaker Paul Ryan does not do all that was promised. I have had an ongoing conversation with my new Republican Congressman Matt Gaetz. I appreciate Matt’s direct responses to my questions, even if I don’t necessarily like the answers.

I’ve come to the conclusion that I believe President Trump is setting up the Congressional Republican leaders, and not vice-versa as was my first concern. He is giving this “first step” as a way to put Senator McConnell and Speaker Ryan on record as to committing to going the distance on having a true market-based health care system that is available to all who desire to participate and provided to those who cannot afford it.

However, as Christians we cannot compromise our biblical values for the sake of political expediency. I am grateful that under President Trump’s plan the Federal Government cannot provide taxpayer dollars to Planned Parenthood. The abolishment of that abominable organization is long past due. It is also good that those who enter our country illegally will not be allowed health care entitlements without checking their status first.

We are going to have to keep our eye on this health care “ball” and not allow this first step to become the only step. All the while, we must be committed to living “boldly according to God’s Word.” Never before has this been needed more.

TO THE STREETS

As I said in the preceding page, I believe President Trump is setting up Establishment Republicans with the American Health Care Act. He is getting them on the record while making progress on repealing and replacing ObamaCare.

It would be best if it could be done in one bill, however I think this bureaucratic leviathan has become too large to fell in one blow. We'll have to attack it in steps if we cannot get Congress, especially the Senate, to move in the right direction.

I am willing to give President Trump the benefit of the doubt and trust him (I know, I know!) to keep the ball rolling on completely repealing ObamaCare. That being said, I will fortify my willingness and trust with the following actions. I encourage you to do the same.

1. I will keep in contact with Congressman Gaetz and push him to sponsor and support legislation that brings health care to a market-based system and does not violate biblical principles. Please do the same with your [representative](#).
2. I will contact both of my US Senators and share my concerns and desires for not only repealing and replacing ObamaCare, but also to do so that supports our conservative Christian values. Again, please do the same with your [senators](#).
3. I will continue to study alternatives and best approaches to a market-based, biblically-responsible health care system. The Heritage Foundation is an invaluable [resource](#) on not only health care reform, but also on many issues that are important to conservative Christians. You would do yourself well by becoming a [member](#) for as little as \$25 a year.
4. We are very close to launching our new Truth Watch PAC [website](#). It is stunning and we are excited about its future. We are going to attack one issue at a time, as we do here in The Truth Newsletter. Be looking out in the near future for an email announcing its launching and ways you can support us. You are going to love what you see and want to be a part of it.

As always, please encourage as many of your friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors to [join](#) The Truth Watch today. We have much work to do!

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