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David Boaz

Executive VP, Cato Institute :

I'm amused -- at best -- that the vast United States government is using my tax dollars to try to persuade voters that the signature legislative accomplishment of the president's term is actually a good idea. Search Google for the term "Obamacare," and the first paid link is for [healthcare.gov](#), a government propaganda site for the Affordable Care Act. They're also using [Medicare.gov](#) that way. And roping in poor old Andy Griffith for a TV ad that [Factcheck.org](#) says uses "weasel words" to "mislead" seniors.

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said the administration had a "lot of reeducation to do." If administration officials were confident that their health care scheme was a good idea, they wouldn't need to spend tax dollars -- in a year when the deficit exceeds \$1.5 trillion -- to try to sell it to the citizens. And this raises a real question for democratic governance: Are the people supposed to tell policymakers what policies they want, or should policymakers use the people's money to tell them what they should want?

Subject

Date

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