

GOP Plan To Defund Healthcare Will Mean Higher Taxes And Insurance Costs For Small Business

Posted in [Liberaland](#) by Sandi Behrns • October 26, 2010, 2:50 PMET • [8 Comments](#) »

by [Sandi Behrns](#)



Immediately following passage of the historic [Affordable Care Act](#), Republicans began [talking about repeal](#). Progressives laughed, knowing that [repeal would be virtually impossible](#). Despite the [appealing rhetoric](#) this continues to provide for the Tea Party base of the party, the GOP has come to acknowledge that repeal won't happen.

Plan B is to defund the program. They can't do that completely because some funding was included in the bill, but they could make trouble through appropriations to the HHS and Treasury. Looks like they've decided [attacking funding for the IRS](#) is a winning strategy.

“Repeal is not within the set of possible outcomes while President Obama holds his veto pen. However, a defunding strategy could throw sand in the gears of health care and bring it to a near standstill,” said Michael Cannon, director of health policy studies at the libertarian Cato Institute.

Some Republican members of the House of Representatives have already made clear their intention to target IRS funding. “We have the power of the purse,” Rep. Phil Gingrey (R., Ga.) said during a CNN appearance last month.

“Every one of these agencies involved in implementing this new law will need \$ 5 billion to \$10 billion of appropriations. We can stop that and we can certainly stop the IRS from hiring,” said Gingrey.

The downside for anti-tax Republicans who claim to revere small business?

The Treasury Dept. says the IRS won't be able to provide small business health insurance tax credits if Congress blocks funding for implementing the health care law.

"It's unfortunate that some in Congress want to pursue a plan that would leave millions of small businesses with higher taxes and higher health insurance bills," said Sandra Salstrom, a Treasury Dept. spokeswoman.



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• Posted by Drk H
October 26th, 2010 at 14:56

If as you presume defunding HHS will cause increase in taxes there is an easy way out of it. Cut taxes to make up the difference for any increased costs. Simple, forces Obama to further veto tax cuts as well. Not to worry. Not to mention the constitutional question of Obamacare coming to a supreme court near you soon.



• Posted by Drk H
October 26th, 2010 at 14:58

Or it will also force congress to cut spending in other areas that is just as agreeable.



• Posted by burqa
October 26th, 2010 at 16:00

There is no going backward, despite conservative dreams.
We see them trying to return to the good old days when red-baiting was in, using guilt-by-association, opposing measures to help those most in need while supporting anything helping those with the least need, but they do not understand the path this nation is on.

They want to continue to deny equality to gays, and welcome racists and bigots into their ranks. Their path is backwards.

They will not have the votes to stop health insurance reform, all they have is a commitment to solidify their reputation as the Party of No.
They have always stood in the way of progress and always will. They have no list of achievements to match those of the political left, though they occasionally try to plagiarize credit