



MORNING ROUNDUP: Anniversary events start today

By Julian Pecquet - 03/21/11 07:27 AM ET

Driving the day

Democratic lawmakers and administration officials kick off a week of full court press to mark the law's first year today with events focusing on the law's tax credits and other benefits for small businesses.

Here are some events organized in collaboration with the pro-reform Small Business Majority:

In Las Vegas: Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid holds a <u>press conference</u> alongside business owners and advocates at 10:30am PDT.

In Cleveland: Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius joins The Consortium of African American Organizations and Terry Gardiner, National Policy Director of Small Business Majority, at a **roundtable for small business owners in Ohio** at 3:15 p.m.; in the morning, Sebelius will be attending a Health Care Quality Event at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus.

In New Mexico: Sen. Jeff Bingaman hosts a <u>New Mexico Small Business Roundtable</u> at COMPA Industries with Small Business Administration Regional Administrator Yolanda Garcia Olivarez.

In New York: Rep. Anthony Weiner joins a New York Small Business Roundtable discussion at Junior's Restaurant and Bakery in Brooklyn.

Opponents won't be sitting on their thumbs, though.

The libertarian CATO Institute offers a different perspective on the law's impact and its future with a half-day **event** starting at 1 p.m. The keynote speaker will be attorney David Rivkin, who led the charge in the 26-state challenge in Florida that resulted in Judge Roger Vinson tossing out the whole law.

What you might have missed since Friday

An advisory panel of the Food and Drug Administration has **recommended** that removing menthol cigarettes from the marketplace "would benefit public health in the United States."

North Dakota **joined** the list of states asking for a waiver from health reform's medical loss ratio requirements.

Weekend reading

Health insurers are snatching up less-regulated businesses in the wake of the health reform law, *Kaiser Health News* **reports**.

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