



Millennials: 'Health care' for all...well, not for me

Young Americans are divided over the issue of health care and whether government should play a role.

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While a majority of young Americans dislike the federal government's requirement that virtually everyone in the U.S. must buy health insurance or pay a fine, a GenForward poll finds a majority of people 18 to 30 agree the federal government should pay for health care.

GenForward is a survey of adults ages 18 to 30 by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

According to The Associated Press, the findings suggest most young Americans won't be content with a law offering "access" to coverage, as President Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress debate legislation to repeal and replace Obamacare.

On the other side of the argument is Spencer Brown of Young America's Foundation (YAF), who disagrees with the suggestion that most young people think government should pay for health care.

"I read through some of the top line data from that poll and it skews very anti-Trump but also very anti-conservative," Brown tells OneNewsNow.

"Just scrolling through some of their questions," he continues, "62 percent of their respondents contacted an official to express their opposition to President Trump and 69 percent reported attending one of those women's marches earlier in the year."

Brown also noticed that only 11 percent of the people surveyed reported having health insurance bought through a marketplace established by the Affordable Care Act, or ObamaCare.

"So I think that kind of underscores the fact that Obamacare doesn't work very well or it doesn't really serve that many Americans," he says. "Even in this poll, which showed many people wanting to have health care provided for them, only 11 percent of those surveyed actually got their health care through a marketplace set up by the Affordable Care Act itself."

Young America's Foundation has done polling on this same type of issue, which contradicts the GenForward survey.

Patricia Lee Onwuka with Generation Opportunity says a recent Cato Institute poll shows Americans want health care reform but disapprove of changes that increase costs, including for medicines.

"I think this poll is probably going after a certain agenda, sadly," she says of GenForward's findings.

One thing Onwuka found interesting from the GenForward poll involves the question, "Is your family better off or worse off because of Obamacare?"

"More people say that they're worse off than they're better off," she explains. "At the end of the day, all Americans want access to affordable care and quality care and the Affordable Care Act never delivered on that."