



Obamacare's beyond the control of even the Congress

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By **Paul Mulshine/The Star Ledger**

Did you realize that the bureaucracy set up under Obamacare will be able to change all the terms and conditions of your health-care coverage?

And that even Congress won't be able to do much about it?

That gives you an idea what's at stake in that upcoming Supreme Court decision over the individual mandate for health insurance that's key to the Affordable Care Act.

One of the few people who has studied all this in intricate detail is Michael Cannon of the Cato Institute.

When I've discussed this with Cannon, he has described the dynamic that will be at work.

The problem is that most of the 47 million or so people who lack health insurance are too poor to afford it.

When they're all given coverage, they may pay a small part of the cost in their premiums. But the rest of us have to make up the balance.

That bureaucracy will just keep raising our premiums to generate that money.

Read **this article by Cannon** to learn more about this aspect of Obamacare.

Here's an excerpt from the executive summary:

When the unelected government officials on this board submit a legislative proposal to Congress, it automatically becomes law: PPACA requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to implement it. Blocking an IPAB "proposal" requires at a

minimum that the House and the Senate and the president agree on a substitute. The Board's edicts therefore can become law without congressional action, congressional approval, meaningful congressional oversight, or being subject to a presidential veto. Citizens will have no power to challenge IPAB's edicts in court.

Worse, PPACA forbids Congress from repealing IPAB outside of a seven-month window in the year 2017, and even then requires a three-fifths majority in both chambers...

IPAB's unelected members will have effectively unfettered power to impose taxes and ration care for all Americans, whether the government pays their medical bills or not. In some circumstances, just one political party or even one individual would have full command of IPAB's lawmaking powers. IPAB truly is independent, but in the worst sense of the word. It wields power independent of Congress, independent of the president, independent of the judiciary, and independent of the will of the people.

The creation of IPAB is an admission that the federal government's efforts to plan America's health care sector have failed. It is proof of the axiom that government control of the economy threatens democracy.