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Lawsuit awaits Obama's signature on bill

Chad Groening and Allie Martin - OneNewsNow - 3/22/2010 1:15:00 PM



A law firm that defends and promotes Christian heritage and moral values says it's prepared to file a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the healthcare bill once President Obama signs it into law tomorrow.

Richard Thompson, president and chief counsel of the [Thomas More Law Center](#), says Congress clearly went too far. He says the Law Center is challenging the bill on the basis that Congress lacks the

authority to force people to obtain or purchase insurance from a private entity -- something he says goes "way beyond what our founding fathers ever imagined" Congress would be doing.

"It went way beyond the enumerated powers that the Constitution gives it," the attorney explains. "We also believe that because the healthcare reform act does provide for taxpayer-funded abortions...it violates fundamental right of conscious and free exercise of religion."



Thompson

Thompson says with the Democrats controlling both the White House and Congress, their only recourse was taking legal action.

"I think it's important that Americans who do believe in Constitutional government stand up and speak out," he states. "And right now, when the Democrats control Congress and the executive branch of government, the only option we have until that control is changed is to fight these issues in the courts, which was the third branch of government that provides the checks and balances."

Costs of Gov't programs always exceed projections

Meanwhile, Michael Tanner, a senior fellow with the [Cato Institute](#) says the Senate healthcare bill will cost more than advertised. He says it will not take long before both Congress and Americans are shocked at the higher-than-expected cost of healthcare reform.

Tanner points out that history shows that government programs almost always cost more than initial projections. ([Listen to audio report](#))



Tanner

"Most people believe that this bill is supposed to lower insurance premiums. But the reality is that insurance premiums are going to continue to rise despite this bill," says the senior fellow. "In fact they will double over the next six to ten years, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Continuing, he thinks people will be "surprised" that the taxes they are hit with are much higher than they expect. "These are not taxes that are just going to fall on the rich," he explains. "Many of them are going to fall on the middle class."

Tanner predicts liberals will continue pushing for more government reform and oversight in other areas, and although he believes healthcare will be worse, he comments that the changes will not be noticeable at first.

"But over time, we'll find more and more decisions...being made by Washington. In addition, this program is going to continue to squeeze reimbursements for doctors. They're going to get paid less. That means that more doctors are going to drop out of the healthcare system, fewer doctors are going to come in, and over time we will find it

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