



News Release

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Contact: Utah Health Policy Project

Office: (801) 433-2299 or kim@healthpolicyproject.org

Florida Court Ruling on Affordable Care Act Would Deny Health Security to Millions of Americans Including Many Utahns

The Jan. 31st in the court case *Florida et al. v. DHHS et al.* decision ruled by Judge Roger Vinson is a disappointing and misguided ruling based on a well-funded and politically orchestrated effort to overturn the current health care law and to deny citizens the health security and protections they want and need.

Opponents of the Affordable Care Act are working to deny Americans, including Utahns, the benefits they are already starting to see.

- This year it is estimated that over 37,000 Utah Small Businesses will be eligible for an Insurance premium tax credit.¹
- About 11,000 young adults under 26 could lose health insurance while they strive to find work in this tough economic environment.²
- Utah will lose access to federal funds aimed at fighting waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicare and Medicaid.
- Over one and a half million Utah residents would again be susceptible to lifetime limits placed on them by their insurance companies limiting the care they can receive.²
- Utah residents would also be vulnerable to losing their coverage the moment they need it most, when they or a family member becomes ill or is in an accident through insurance rescission, one of the most egregious industry abuses.²

Bob Cole works for Progressive Remodelers Inc., a local small business that provides home remodeling services. He stated, *"We have really been questioning whether we can continue to provide health coverage for our employees, and have had to look seriously at whether or not we can continue to provide insurance benefits. We have decided to continue to offer insurance this year largely in part to the small business premium tax credit we will receive thanks to the Affordable Care Act."*

Federal District Court Judge Vinson rules against the majority regarding the law of the land. Two courts have already ruled the ACA constitutional and twelve others have dismissed the challenged to the current law outright. This ruling will also have little impact in states already moving ahead with implementation. The Affordable Care Act is now the law of the land and it must be upheld and, where appropriate, improved upon.

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1. Families USA and Small Business Majority. (2010, July). *A Helping Hand for Small Businesses: Health Insurance Tax Credits.*

2. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, (2011, January). *The Price of Repealing the Affordable Care Act: Utah.*