

Federal appeals court gives new diagnosis to Obama's Affordable Care Act; Utahns react

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(KUTV) A Washington D.C. appeals court says the government will not be able to subsidize health insurance in states like Utah that do not have a state exchange.

The decision says the Affordable Care

Act bars subsidy in 34 states, including Utah, that do not have state health insurance exchanges, but rely on the federal government exchange. 75,000 Utahns have health insurance from the Affordable Care Act exchange. The average subsidy is 76 percent and if that subsidy goes away, insurance will be four times more expensive on average.

"In the immediate it doesn't change anything," said Governor Spokesman Mary Carpenter.

Carpenter notes the court stayed its order during appeal so the old rules stay in effect at least for a while. In Washington, opponents of Obamacare found new energy. In Utah, thousands may become uninsured again. The case is likely headed to the Supreme Court.

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