

(Washington) ----- Congressman Allen West (R-FL) released this statement today on the one year anniversary of President Barack Obama signing into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act:

"There is no question that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is an unpopular overhaul of the American health care system and threatens Americans' access to quality health care," West said.

Since the passage of ObamaCare:

- Two Federal judges have found the individual mandate – the lynchpin of ObamaCare – unconstitutional.
- The House of Representatives has voted to repeal ObamaCare's onerous 1099 tax reporting provisions that will saddle small businesses with oppressive paperwork, drive up costs, destroy jobs, and obstruct economic growth.
- The Obama Administration has had to approve more than 1,000 waivers for entities and states facing unworkable mandates under the law.
- A majority of Americans favor repeal of ObamaCare despite a year-long public relations campaign by the White House and others to turn public opinion.

"While many may argue that this is a law about health care, it is truly an issue about the long term viability of our economy," West said. "America's unemployment rate has been close to 10 percent in 2010, while South Florida suffers with almost 12 percent unemployed. Many small business owners have expressed their frustration that this legislation is hurting their businesses. ObamaCare adds billions to our nation's already unsustainable mountain of debt. Further, since the enactment of this law, health care premiums have actually increased and Americans will not be able to keep the coverage they currently enjoy."

"The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is a costly and unworkable maze of new federal agencies and empowered Federal Government bureaucrats who determine the what, when, where, and how of health care," West said. "While there are certain parts of the law that I support, including the segment on pre-existing conditions, I believe the bill overreaches the authority of the federal government."

"It is for these reasons I stand by a vote in the House of Representatives to repeal ObamaCare. I will continue to work to replace this law with a patient-centered solution that restores health care choice for all Americans."

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