

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 29, 2014

Senator Mary Landrieu
United States Senate
703 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator David Vitter
United States Senate
516 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

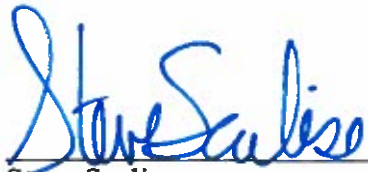
Dear Senator Landrieu and Senator Vitter:

We write to respectfully request that you place a hold on the nomination of Ms. Sylvia Burwell for Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services until an agreement is reached to provide for the equitable treatment and protection of all Americans under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The President's signature health care law, which contains a laundry list of job-killing mandates and taxes, is wreaking havoc on our economy and creating hardships for hard-working taxpayers who received cancellation letters for their health insurance policies due to unworkable ACA requirements. To date, at least 4.7 million Americans, including at least 92,000 Louisianans, have had their health insurance plans cancelled as a result of this law. In addition to losing their health insurance coverage, Americans across the country are seeing their health insurance premiums and deductibles skyrocket while their provider networks become narrower. In Louisiana, some individuals are seeing premium increases greater than 100%.

Since the passage of the ACA, the Obama Administration, through the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of the Treasury, has unilaterally delayed or changed the law at least 20 times. For instance, the Administration has delayed the enforcement of the employer mandate for large employers until 2015 and for businesses with between 50 and 99 employees until 2016. In December, the Department of Health and Human Services decided to vastly expand the "hardship exemption" to include individuals who "received a notice saying that your current health insurance plan is being cancelled, and you consider the other plans available unaffordable." These actions, among many others, are tacit admissions that the Obama Administration knows this law is both unworkable and unpopular. Unfortunately, the Administration has yet to provide this relief to all Americans.

Families across Louisiana have faced cancelled health insurance plans, rising health insurance premiums, and the loss of access to doctors and hospitals while watching the Administration pick political favorites through selective exemptions from the ACA. It is wholly unfair for families to still be threatened with penalties from the IRS at the same time as insurance companies and businesses are granted unilateral relief. Please join us in calling for fairness for all under the law by placing a hold on Ms. Burwell's nomination until she agrees to provide equitable treatment for all Americans under the Affordable Care Act.

Sincerely,



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress



Charles Boustany
Member of Congress



Bill Cassidy
Member of Congress



John Fleming
Member of Congress



Vance McCallister
Member of Congress