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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4303
October 5, 2011

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Let's Freeze and Investigate PPACA
Cosponsor H.R. 3095

Dear Colleague:

Please support my legislation to halt implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act until its full impact has been carefully studied. Given the ever growing number of uncertainties as well as the high costs associated with the law, it only makes sense to suspend implementation until we have a better understanding of the law's impact on our budget and on the health and welfare of the American people.

Congress and the public are just beginning to realize how harmful the law will be to our prospects for economic growth, on reducing health care premiums, and on maintaining access to quality health care services. According to a recent survey from the Kaiser Family Foundation, employer-provided health insurance premiums have already risen 8-9 percent in 2011. And yet the law's more onerous provisions have yet to take effect.

The law isn't just expensive. According to Medicare's chief actuary, the law will limit access to care for many seniors. Some hospitals will stop admitting seniors because of the \$500 billion in cuts to Medicare, and fewer services will be provided under Medicare. As a result of \$145 billion in cuts to Medicare Advantage, Medicare's actuary has also said that many MA beneficiaries will see significant reductions in their Medicare benefits.

Congress should take the simple step of freezing further implementation to allow time for an independent commission to investigate the impact of this law on patients and our economy.

H.R. 3095 would put PPACA on ice until an Affordable Care Evaluation Commission, whose members would be appointed by Congress and the President, can study and then project the full impact of PPACA on:

- the quality of health care delivered to Medicare recipients
- health insurance coverage for individuals who were insured prior to law's implementation
- participation rates in State exchanges
- the size of the federal budget deficit, private-sector job creation and the U.S. tax base

Please join me in supporting this important piece of legislation. To cosponsor or for more information, please contact Beth Nelson at beth.nelson@mail.house.gov or 225-4201.

Sincerely,

SAM JOHNSON
Member of Congress