

 **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**
**ACA LIVES UP TO
NAME IN FLORIDA!
BUT WHAT'S THE
REAL NEWS HERE?**

By Stephen L. Bakke  June 23, 2014



Here's what provoked me:

I came across an article that the Affordable Care Act has, in the final analysis, lived up to its name. You know how I would react to that! I thought a better theme was that for the average ObamaCare enrollee in Florida, the healthinsurance costs are 80% subsidized by taxpayers. That, ladies and gents, is the real, substantive news that we should be aware of.

Here's my response:

"ACA Lives Up To Name in Florida" – But What's the Real News Here?

Re: the June 19 article "ACA lives up to name in Florida" – the headline had a message to tell: "ObamaCare is working for Florida citizens – healthcare costs are held in check." But the headline should have been: "The average Florida ObamaCare enrollee's health insurance costs are 80% subsidized by taxpayers." The article acknowledges this fact by disclosing the typical Florida ObamaCare enrollee pays \$68 after tax credits, while the average true monthly premium is \$347. Taken in context of the population, a very small percentage of Florida residents are enrolled in ObamaCare.

We must be honest with ourselves when we are tempted to gain some comfort that our concerns over rising healthcare might finally be under control. They aren't! In fact, the Manhattan Institute concluded that, on average, individual-market premiums are up by an average of 49%. As Peter Suderman at *Reason* magazine concludes: "ObamaCare didn't reduce the price of insurance; if anything it raised it – and then used tax revenues to cover the difference."

We must stop kidding ourselves!

Mallard Fillmore by Bruce Tinsley

