

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### **OBAMACARE: Just move the goalposts and declare victory!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  July 14, 2014

#### *Here's what provoked me:*

*I read an article that was basically a giddy declaration of success for ObamaCare. But then I looked closer at the statistics that were being held out as evidence of that success. What the author was claiming was actually what ACA opponents had predicted would be only marginal improvement in insurance enrollments and which would indicate overall failure compared with original claims and dramatically increased costs. I realized that once again progressives were moving the goalposts and declaring victory! I had to say something, don't you think?*

#### *Here's my response:*

#### **ObamaCare – Just move the goalposts and declare victory!**

Re: “Surveys say Obamacare doing well” – 7-14-14. Frank Gluck “clucks” about the success of the ACA and sites improved percentages for uninsured across the country. But recall what ObamaCare conservative opponents predicted as evidence of likely failure. They said there would be a marginal improvement in the number and percentage of uninsured. But “when everything shakes out,” opponents predicted we will probably be left with about 30 million uninsured Americans while experiencing much higher costs and severe economic damage. It looks like the conservatives will be fairly close in their predictions of “the number that will continue to be uninsured.”

Ever more frequently, reports of ObamaCare success actually fall into the conservative opponents’ predicted “zone of failure.” It seems a new way to win these political disputes is to lay claim to your opponents’ opinions and declare success when they are proven accurate. Just move the goalposts and declare victory! And all the while healthcare costs continue to skyrocket.

Whenever I criticize ObamaCare, I’m coming from an opinion that healthcare payment reform was desperately needed, but that the ACA is fatally flawed. We deserve so much better! The opportunity for effective, efficient reform was squandered because of conservative shortsightedness and abject, naïve foolishness from the progressives.

**Steve Bakke, 16440 Kelly Cove Drive, Ft. Myers, FL 33908 612-590-1853**