



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Contact: Mark Plowden
803-734-3670
mplowden@scag.gov

Five Additional States Join Legal Challenge to Federal Health Care Law

Bipartisan, multi-state challenge now includes 18 states

Columbia – South Carolina Attorney General Henry McMaster announced today that five (5) additional states have joined the original thirteen (13) states’ legal challenge to the newly enacted federal health care legislation. Indiana, North Dakota, Mississippi, Nevada and Arizona will join the original states’ legal action, which was filed on March 23 in federal court.

The new states now join Florida, South Carolina, Texas, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Washington, Colorado, Michigan, Utah, Alabama, South Dakota and Idaho in the broadening effort.

“The addition of five new states to our bipartisan legal challenge reflects a growing, nationwide concern about the constitutionality of this sweeping and unprecedented federal legislation,” said McMaster. “This legal challenge by the States appears to be the only hope of protecting the American people from this unprecedented attack on our system of government.”

Under the new federal health care law, for the first time in the nation’s history, the federal government is attempting to force individual Americans to enter into contracts and purchase services from private companies – in this case, insurance companies – or face a penalty. The state attorneys general are challenging this so-called individual mandate requirement, explaining that such an imposition on the American people exceeds Congress’ authority and violates Americans’ constitutional rights. Additionally, the states are challenging provisions of the new law that will impose dramatic Medicaid spending increases on the states.

View the multi-state lawsuit: <http://www.scag.gov/newsroom/pdf/2010/healthcare.pdf>

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