



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Washington, DC 20515

October 22, 2013

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

On August 22, I sent a letter asking you to provide information about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act by September 11. I made this request after you declined to testify at a hearing on the subject and further declined to testify on several alternative days in September.

As of today, I have yet to receive a written response to my inquiry. The American people have a right to know how your department intends to manage this large, complex program. Your continued silence on these important inquiries after refusing to testify raises serious questions about the administration's commitment to transparency and accountability.

Since I made my initial request, there have been a number of problems with HealthCare.gov. In response, the President has called for a "tech surge" to put the website in working order. So in addition to my previous request, I also ask that you provide an accounting of the costs of this technical support, including the number of people hired, their compensation, and the aggregate cost of their repairs.

I hope you will promptly provide the requested information.

For reference, I have enclosed copies of my previous correspondence. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Hoffmann at (202) 226-7270.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Ryan".

Paul D. Ryan
Chairman

Enclosures



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Washington, DC 20515

August 15, 2013

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

This letter extends a formal invitation for you to testify before the House Committee on the Budget regarding implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The hearing will take place on Wednesday, September 11, at 9:30 a.m. in room 210 of the Cannon House Office Building.

Please provide the Committee with 150 copies of your statement at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. The copies should be delivered to the Committee in room 304A of the Cannon House Office Building. We also request an electronic copy of your statement in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing. Please send this as an e-mail attachment to jon.romito@mail.house.gov. Your full written statement will be included in the record, but the chairman and committee members will request that you summarize your views in oral testimony limited to approximately 5 minutes. In addition, please fax your current biography to the committee as soon as possible at (202) 226-0359.

I look forward to seeing you on September 11th. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Romito at (202) 226-7270.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Ryan" clearly distinguishable.

Paul D. Ryan
Chairman



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Washington, DC 20515

August 22, 2013

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

Earlier this summer, I invited you to testify at a September 11th hearing before the House Budget Committee on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Although your staff has indicated that you are unavailable on the proposed date—and on three alternative dates—I have yet to receive an official response from your office.

The committee has many questions about how this law is being implemented. Of particular interest is how the federal exchange subsidies, with an estimated gross cost of more than \$1 trillion, will be managed, administered, and verified. The administration has already delayed several key provisions, raising serious doubts about its ability to meet the law's statutory deadlines. Given the significant financial liability these exchange subsidies represent, Congress has repeatedly asked for additional information about the administration's efforts to prepare for implementation. Unfortunately, no satisfactory answers have been forthcoming. This hearing is important for Congress and the American people to gain additional insight into how prepared the Department of Health and Human Services is to manage this brand new, trillion-dollar entitlement program.

Therefore, I ask that you prepare an organizational chart that clearly identifies the offices in the Department of Health and Human Services that are involved in implementation. For each office, please list its responsibilities concerning implementation; the number of employees (FTE) working on implementation; all relevant spending on salaries, expenses, and applicable programs; and the budgetary accounts (identified by Treasury account number) that are funding these efforts. Please also include all relevant spending on salaries and expenses for the health-insurance-exchange "navigators." The American people have a right to know how the department is spending their tax dollars.

I ask that you provide this information no later than September 11, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Hoffmann or Stephanie Parks at (202) 226-7270.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Paul Ryan
Chairman