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HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4602

August 26, 2013

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor
House Majority Leader
H-329, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Cantor:

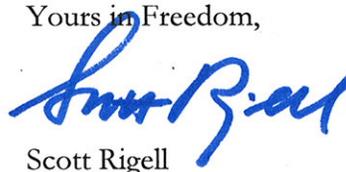
The sobering consequences of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that so many experts warned us about are not only coming to fruition, they're exceeding predictions. Americans are anticipating skyrocketing premiums, some will lose their employer-provided coverage, and across the country employers are reeling with the costs and uncertainty presented by the PPACA.

Just last week, the University of Virginia announced that spouses of University employees who have access to health insurance through their own jobs will no longer be eligible for health insurance coverage. UPS made a similar announcement. Both organizations pointed to the health care law as a contributing factor in these new policies.

Even labor unions are expressing their distaste for the law. The Teamsters, United Food and Commercial International Union, and UNITE-HERE shared this sentiment in a letter to Leaders Reid and Pelosi: "On behalf of the millions of working men and women we represent and the families they support, we can no longer stand silent in the face of elements of the Affordable Care Act that will destroy the very health and wellbeing of our members along with millions of other hardworking Americans."

I concur with these sentiments and urge you to leverage the power of the purse to stop the implementation of this law. This fall, Congress has the opportunity to exert its influence and include language in our appropriations bills to defund the PPACA. I agree with scores of my colleagues who recently signed onto a letter to you recommending this and believe that action is needed to spare America from mandatory, government-run health care.

Yours in Freedom,



Scott Rigell