

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations  
Hearing on “PPACA Enrollment and the Insurance Industry”  
May 7, 2014**

*(As Prepared for Delivery)*

At this subcommittee, our investigations are about getting the facts - a quest for transparency. The self-proclaimed “most transparent administration in history” has repeatedly dodged our simple questions about the health care law and refused even a semblance of transparency about how its signature legislative achievement is – or is not – working.

We began asking for basic data from the administration on enrollment one week after the launch of HealthCare.gov, and the administration has rejected our requests for more information every time. Members of the press have asked, and the administration suggested the only way to get the facts was directly asking the insurance providers themselves. So, we took their advice and did just that, but the administration cried foul.

We began asking about HealthCare.gov months before October 1. Repeatedly we were told things were “on track” and “working the way it was supposed to.” We learned that this was not the case, and administration officials did everything in their power to hide the chaos behind the scenes.

The American public deserves better. They deserve better than an administration that promised them \$2,500 in savings on their health care premiums, only to see the costs rise sharply for many. They deserve better than an administration that repeated promises officials knew would be impossible to keep – promises that Americans could keep their doctor and keep their health care plans. Like it or not, millions of Americans have found themselves with the unwelcome reality of cancellations and lost access to their trusted doctors.

Today we will hear first hand from the insurance providers about how implementation is working from their perspective. While the administration has declared this conversation over, the fact is that serious questions remain unanswered. And it is our responsibility to continue seeking the facts. How many people have completed the enrollment process? Are the risks presented by these pools sustainable? How much more will premiums rise next year? Is the backend of the website on track to be working by the next enrollment period? Are there any other delays or changes ahead that will disrupt the ability of families and businesses to plan for their health care coverage and needs? Will more health care plans be cancelled in the coming years?

What is wrong with seeking this information? Nothing. We released basic data points on enrollment as of April 15, and we will do so again on the data we collect through May 20. The facts are the facts, and while the administration and its allies furiously try to muddy reality, the public deserves transparency. While the administration toasts to the law’s success with its Hollywood allies, declaring this conversation over, we will continue our pursuit for facts for the American people so we can finally have a full, accurate picture of this health care law.

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