

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Josh Mesker Office: 501-375-7000 Cell: 501-350-2505 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, June 28, 2012

Supreme Court Upholding Healthcare Mandate Attacks Life and Liberty

LITTLE ROCK, AR – "Today's decision by the Supreme Court to uphold the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's individual mandate is extremely disappointing," said Family Council President Jerry Cox. "The federal government does not have the constitutional authority to force Americans to purchase health insurance. A terrible precedent has now been set. With this ruling, the highest court in our nation has signaled to Congress that it can pass laws mandating that Americans purchase any product or service it deems appropriate under the guise of a 'tax.' A serious blow has been dealt to our liberties."

Cox said, "The Supreme Court's ruling also encourages the Department of Health and Human Services to continue attacking religious freedom through its mandate that religious institutions provide abortion-inducing drugs, sterilizations, and contraception as part of their employee's health insurance plans. Furthermore, this decision emboldens the appalling 'abortion surcharge' policy, which forces all Americans to directly subsidize abortions through their health insurance payments. Now millions of Americans will have to choose between following the law and following their religious and moral convictions."

Cox said, "Now it's truly up to Congress to do the right thing and fully repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. It's an attack on our Constitution. It's an attack on religious freedom and moral conscience. It's an attack on our free enterprise system. I encourage Congress to scrap this misguided law and start completely over on healthcare reform."

Family Council is a conservative education and research organization based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

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