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Period 1

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Los Angeles Times, October 30, 2013, “President Obama tries to sell Obamacare: Can you hear me now?”

President Obama has lately been working very hard on the debate about national healthcare. There has been bickering and fighting without end over this topic. The President has been trying to end this argument by many means, recently, there was a website established with the purpose of helping those hoping to acquire insurance under this new plan. The failure of this website has created more negative feelings towards the plan in general. Because of this, Obama traveled to Boston in the hope of increasing support for his plan. This is the location where Republicans and Democrats passed a state health program that the national one was modeled off of. His intent by this location was to remind the public that political parties can work together in order to accomplish things. This was brought up because the major reason for the recent standstill is that the two parties, Democrats and Republicans, simply refuse to work with each other instead of against each other. The major problem is that it is simply a basic 50/50 standstill of disagreement among the American people. In a recent poll taken mid-October it was shown that 4/10 Americans agree with the health program, while 5/10 Americans are against it. This is similar to 75 percent of Democrats approving, with 85 percent of Republicans against it, with both groups having a more solid stance, barely any of their opinions have changed since the last poll. Republicans have constantly noted that the plan was passed against GOP objections, making it totally different than the Massachusetts plan. Despite this, the President has remarked that the bill has some very positive components to it. “A true patients’ bill of rights,” he called it. “No more discrimination against kids with preexisting conditions. No more dropping your policy when you get sick and need it most. No more lifetime limits or restricted annual limits. Young people can stay on their parents’ plans until they are 26. All this is in place right now. It is working right now.” He also addressed that those whose plans were cancelled because of new minimum coverage requirements, should easily find a new deal in today’s market easily, a statement that has many citizens unhappy. President Obama also went to speak positively of those who supported the program, and negatively of those who have worked to block the healthcare plan. Getting support for healthcare has always been a problem because people are often afraid to give up what they have, flawed as it is. At this point, Obama must work alone to get this plan to work.

I chose this article because we were assigned to choose an article that concerned either Congress or the President. This article concerns national health care and Obama’s support for it. The national healthcare has been one of the most concerned and debated over issues in recent times. It outlines standards for all health care, which may sound like an entirely positive item, but it in fact there are many negative repercussions, such as insurance companies beginning to cancel many people’s coverage because the coverage did not meet the new requirements set by the national program. For this reason, many are set against the new reform of the system, because they would rather keep their old insufficient insurance, because they do not wish to seek out a new insurance policy. This article also helps to show the role of the President and his role in lawmaking. Everyone knows that the President has the veto, but he actually can have a strong influence on the movement of the progress of the law. Because the President has such a large amount of respect, his opinion is typically valued or at least considered, by many. This can be used by the President to persuade people to support his point of view by giving many talks and speeches on the topic.

This situation affects me personally as an American Citizen because the Obamacare, or national health care plan, will affect how my future health insurance plays out, it might have an effect on the economy because the new requirements for insurance may require an increase in taxes. It also will have an effect on the current insurance companies’ policies because the new requirements outlined in the plan have different minimum requirements than previous needs that had to be met for insurance plans. This will cause many Americans to lose their insurance, and I may very well be one of those affected by this sudden change.

National Health care affects the United States as a nation in the fact that nothing like this has ever been done on such a large scaled, health care for an entire nation is no easy task. It has worked on a smaller scale for state wide, but Massachusetts is nothing compared to the entire United States of America. If the healthcare system works as designed, thanks to the actions of President Obama’s work and support for it, it will most likely help ensure that everyone in the country can have a much better and healthier life with the knowledge that they can receive medical care if they so require it in a state of emergency. The downside is that this change of policy may cause some people who already had insurance, to lose that low paying amount for their amount that they received, and will have to find a new, more expensive company to suit their needs; this may create a problem for some people who are completely happy with their current situation. In this way, the health care can either be a help or hindrance to this nation.

This policy of national health care may seem like an important issue in the United States, but it will have little effect on the global scale. The world does not really concern itself with the affairs of the United States, as much as the United States concerns itself with the affairs of the world. Whether national health care is instated next Tuesday, or never at all, nothing will change to affect the world. In short, it does not really matter outside of the boundaries of the United States.

In conclusion, President Obama has an important effect on the progression of the issue of national healthcare. If he is successful in using his position and power as President of the United States, then national healthcare will become an important part of the United States and will help to increase the status of everyday life for all citizens who will now have medical attention when they need it, a result that will hopefully make everyone content for the time being.

Works Cited

30, Cathleen Decker October. "President Obama Tries to Sell Obamacare: Can You Hear Me Now?" *Los Angeles Times*. Los Angeles Times, 30 Oct. 2013. Web. 30 Oct. 2013.