

## Insight

## Doctors and Executives Join the Anti-ACA Ranks

**JANUARY 23, 2012** 

Two polls came out last week showing that among two groups deeply entwined with the US healthcare system; there is serious concern over President Obama's health reform law. Along with previously released Kaiser Family Foundation polling data that showed eroding support among the general public, there is new data that small business owners and physicians are growing quite skeptical about the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce surveyed top executives at small firms (defined as fewer than 500 employees and less than \$25 million in revenue) on a variety of economic questions. Not surprisingly, 74 percent of respondents reported that the health reform law makes it more difficult for their firms to hire employees. Consequently, the millions of Americans looking for work are finding the search more difficult as a direct result of the uncertainty and excessive regulation created by the ACA.

A physician study conducted by Deloitte found that 69 percent of doctors surveyed are "pessimistic about the future of medicine" as a result of the ACA. 73 percent say that the bill will not reduce healthcare costs.

When those providing the medical care don't have faith in the cost containment provisions of the law it is clear that the ACA is going about cost savings in the wrong way.

The fact that employers and physicians, two key groups within the healthcare system, are extremely concerned about consequences of Obama's massive healthcare overhaul is telling. This new polling data only reinforces the point that the more people know about the ACA the more they will oppose it.