



# NEWS RELEASE

**RALPH T. HUDGENS**  
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE  
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER  
INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMMISSIONER

---

Seventh Floor, West Tower  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
[www.oci.ga.gov](http://www.oci.ga.gov)

**For Immediate Release  
November 15, 2013**

**Contact: Glenn Allen  
404-463-0729  
gallen@oci.ga.gov  
Twitter: @GA\_DOI**

## **HUDGENS ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ANNOUNCEMENT**

At best, yesterday's announcement only delayed the breaking of the President's promise for a year. After discussions with federal authorities and carefully reviewing the scant information that was released following the President's press conference, I realize that yesterday's proposal was nothing more than a political stunt designed to remove the growing momentum towards much-needed change and shift the blame from the President's flawed healthcare reform.

After three years of implementing a law which required insurers to cancel policies that many Georgians prefer, President Obama announced that he will selectively choose not to enforce those provisions in 2014. While I encourage insurers to offer consumers as many options as permitted, I lack the statutory authority to force insurers to provide the stop-gap measure that the President created yesterday. Insurance companies have spent years preparing for Obama's law, now the President has given them six weeks to temporarily undo its damage.

This is not Obamacare's only broken promise, but it is the first broken promise acknowledged by the President. Premiums have risen since the law was passed and are set to skyrocket in 2014. The website does not work, and many high-quality family physicians and specialists will be excluded from the Obamacare networks in 2014.

The President needs to make substantive reforms, not engage in political half-measures like we witnessed yesterday. I urge Democrats and Republicans in Washington to come together and work on market-based healthcare reforms that will work for Georgia.