



PRESS RELEASE

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Missouri Health Care for All Cheers decision in *King v. Burwell* *Health care advocates to celebrate at "Decision Day" rallies statewide*

Grassroots supporters of health care access are greeting the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *King v. Burwell* with gratitude and relief today.

The Court has ruled in *King v. Burwell* that the premium discounts Missourians are receiving through the Health Insurance Marketplace are legal and will continue to be available to Missouri consumers.

At issue in the case was the question of whether consumers in states with federally-facilitated Health Insurance Marketplaces, including Missouri, can qualify for the health insurance discounts provided through the Affordable Care Act. Today, the Court ruled, 6 to 3, that the discounts can continue in all 50 states.

The Court's decision will have a significant impact on access to affordable health insurance in Missouri. About 220,000 Missourians are now enrolled in Marketplace plans and 90%, 198,000 people, are receiving discounts. Thanks to the Court's decision, these consumers can rest easy, knowing that their discounts are safe and they can continue to count on their affordable health insurance.

Jen Bersdale, Executive Director of Missouri Health Care for All, says, "The health insurance discounts available to consumers with qualifying incomes have finally made health insurance affordable for millions of Americans who had gone without coverage for years. Today, the Court did the right thing by upholding these discounts for the families who have come to rely on them. We encourage Missourians who have not yet visited the Health Insurance Marketplace for affordable health insurance to do so when Open Enrollment begins again this fall."

Crystal Brigman Mahaney, Deputy Director of Missouri Health Care for All, hopes that the Court's decision in *King v. Burwell* will put to rest the tactic of partisan lawsuits challenging the Affordable Care Act. "From the moment the Affordable Care Act was signed into law, opponents of expanding health care access have used frivolous, partisan lawsuits to try to keep Americans from accessing the law's benefits. With five years since the passage of the law, and yet another Court ruling upholding it, we hope we have seen an end to this cynical tactic."

Grassroots supporters of access to health care will gather around the state this evening to celebrate the Court's decision and to recommit to efforts to cover those who remain uninsured, beginning with Medicaid Expansion.

What: **Rallies and Press Conferences in response to *King v. Burwell* decision**

When: **TODAY, June 25, 5:30 pm**

Where: **Locations across the state:**

- Columbia: Central Missouri Community Action, 807 N. Providence Road, Columbia, MO 65203 (West side of Providence Road)
- Festus: Disability Resource Association, 130 Brandon Wallace Way, Festus, MO 63028
- Joplin: Joplin Community Clinic, 701 S Joplin Ave, Joplin, MO 64801
- Kansas City: Amethyst Place, 2732 Troost Ave # A, Kansas City, MO 64109
- Springfield: First Unitarian Universalist Church, 2434 E Battlefield, Springfield, MO 65804
- St. Louis: Central Reform Congregation, 5020 Waterman Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108
- St. Joseph: Please contact Jen Bersdale, 314-651-6568, for information
- West Plains: Howell County Office Building, 35 Court Square, West Plains, MO 65775 (On the Square, the old Bank of America building)

Who: **Speakers will vary by location.** Speakers will include representatives of Missouri Health Care for All, other advocacy organizations, health insurance enrollment counselors, impacted consumers, community activists and faith leaders.

Missouri Health Care for All staff and leaders are also available for phone and on-camera interviews.

For more information or interview opportunities, please contact Jen Bersdale, Executive Director, Missouri Health Care for All, at 314-651-6568 (cell) or jen@mohealthcareforall.org.

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