



Nat'l Fed'n of Indep. Bus. v. Sebelius, 567 U.S. 519, 592-93 (2012)

Plaintiffs challenged the individual mandate provision of the Affordable Care Act, which imposed a “shared responsibility payment” on individuals who failed to maintain health insurance. The Court held the mandate was a valid exercise of the taxing power. Plaintiffs also challenged the Act’s Medicaid expansion provisions. In a split decision, the Court held that the expansion could not constitutionally be applied to withdraw existing Medicaid funds from a state for failure to comply with the expanded coverage requirements.

On the Topic of Medical Insurance, the AMA Weighed in and the Court Provided

Unlike markets for most products, however, the inability to pay for care does not mean that an uninsured individual will receive no care. Federal and state law, as well as professional obligations and embedded social norms, require hospitals and physicians to provide care when it is most needed, regardless of the patient's ability to pay. See, e.g., ... American Medical Association, Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs, Code of Medical Ethics, Current Opinions: Opinion 8.11--Neglect of Patient, p. 70 (1998-1999 ed.).