

Contact Info: letters@sltrib.com

Link to Article: <http://www.sltrib.com/opinion/1815411-155/federal-states-health-insurance-state-subsidies>

Email Subject: Letter to the Editor

Hi,

I'm submitting the following letter on behalf of the CEO of the National Association of Health Underwriters, Janet Trautwein. Is there any chance you might be able to run it?

Best,
Kelly

Kelly Loussedes
National Association of Health Underwriters
202-595-3074

Dear Editor,

The court system may soon decide the fate of the Affordable Care Act's subsidies for health insurance purchased through the federally run exchange ("How states can save health-care act," Nov. 13). But consumers should not let the legal uncertainty stop them from shopping for health coverage in the exchange -- or taking advantage of the subsidies that are still available to them.

Licensed agents and brokers are best equipped to help them do so. A recent study from the University of Minnesota found that premiums were 13 percent lower in counties with higher populations of brokers.¹

Nationwide, 84 percent of those who received assistance from an agent or broker during last year's open enrollment period rated him or her as "helpful." No other group received a higher satisfaction rate.²

Sincerely,

Janet Trautwein
Executive Vice President and CEO
National Association of Health Underwriters
1212 New York Ave. NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005

¹ http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2013-08-22/national/41435388_1_small-firms-small-employers-brokers

² http://www.allhealth.org/briefingmaterials/5-WALTMANSLIDES_BL.PDF