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Link to Article: <http://www.tampabay.com/opinion/editorials/editorial-health-care-act-improves-coverage-at-lower-cost/2127930>

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,

A recent article stated that the Affordable Care Act has not caused health insurance rates to skyrocket ("Health care act improves coverage, at lower cost," June 22). That will soon change. The law's tax on insurers, which takes effect next year, will drive premiums up over the next decade.

The tax is projected to take in about \$100 billion through 2023, according to the Joint Tax Commission. The Congressional Budget Office says that consumers will pay the tax "in the form of higher premiums." Within 10 years, according to a recent study from the Oliver Wyman consultancy, the tax will increase premiums by up to 3.7 percent -- or more than \$5,000 for a family policy in the individual market.

Sincerely,

Janet Trautwein
Executive Vice President and CEO
National Association of Health Underwriters
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