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This is Dianne Daniels for Brookings Harbor Voices.

Democrats accuse President Trump of taking away people's healthcare. What the President really did was stop paying insurance companies for monetary losses they incur as a result of providing lower co-pays and deductibles to low income people signing up for subsidized Obamacare. The billions paid to the insurance companies is part of Obamacare…passing the costs to taxpayers.

President Trump stopped the payments with good reason, one which a US District Judge agreed with. Congress appropriated no money for it. Both authorization and appropriation are required to spend money on something. An Administration is forbidden to spend money that's not both authorized and appropriated by Congress. Dozens of programs and policies are authorized, but not funded every year.

The President is acting as required by Law. Are those accusing him of nefarious motives advocating he ignore the Constitution, Law and Congress to spend whatever money he wishes on whatever program he wishes? Do they believe what Congress passes merely suggestive in nature for the President?

The solution is simple: Congress passes a budget authorizing transfer of a specific amount of taxpayer money to insurance companies. Or they can pass special funding to do so. Many States have implemented workarounds which may actually result in improved coverage for lower income people. Rather than attempting to get the Judiciary to intercede in this Executive/Legislative impasse by rewriting the Constitution and the Law to make the Administration fund this unfunded part of Obamacare, the 18 States and DC, including Oregon, should instead find workarounds and/or contact their Senators and Congressmen demanding immediate action.

Thank you for listening. And have a nice day on the Wild Rivers Coast.