



Obama: 'If you like your health care plan, you'll be able to keep your health care plan'

Here are the 37 instances we could find in which President Barack Obama or a top administration official said something close to, “If you like your plan, you can keep your plan,” referring to health insurance changes under the Affordable Care Act.

The related fact-check — of Obama’s Nov. 4, 2013, claim that “what we said was, you can keep (your plan) if it hasn’t changed since the law passed” — is available [here](#).

Obama’s comments before the law passed

- [White House Web page](#): “Linda Douglass of the White House Office of Health Reform debunks the myth that reform will force you out of your current insurance plan or force you to change doctors. To the contrary, reform will expand your choices, not eliminate them. ” [\(Spanish-language version.\)](#)
- [White House Web page](#): “If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan.”
- [President’s weekly address](#), June 6, 2009: “If you like the plan you have, you can keep it. If you like the doctor you have, you can keep your doctor, too. The only change you’ll see are falling costs as our reforms take hold.”
- [Town hall in Green Bay, Wis.](#), June 11, 2009: “No matter how we reform health care, I intend to keep this promise: If you like your doctor, you’ll be able to keep your doctor; if you like your health care plan, you’ll be able to keep your health care plan.”
- [Remarks at the American Medical Association](#), June 15, 2009: “I know that there are millions of Americans who are content with their health care coverage — they like their plan and, most importantly, they value their relationship with their doctor. They trust you. And that means that no matter how we reform health care, we will keep this promise to the American people: If you like your doctor, you will be able to keep your doctor, period. If you like your health care plan, you’ll be able to keep your health care plan, period. No one will take it away, no matter what.”
- [Presidential press conference](#), June 23, 2009. “If you like your plan and you like your doctor, you won’t have to do a thing. You keep your plan. You keep your doctor.”
- [Rose Garden remarks](#), July 15, 2009. “If you like your doctor or health care provider, you can keep them. If you like your health care plan, you can keep that too.”

- [Remarks at a rally for New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine](#), July 16, 2009: "if you've got health insurance, you like your doctor, you like your plan — you can keep your doctor, you can keep your plan. Nobody is talking about taking that away from you."
- [Presidential weekly address](#), July 18, 2009: "Michelle and I don't want anyone telling us who our family's doctor should be – and no one should decide that for you either. Under our proposals, if you like your doctor, you keep your doctor. If you like your current insurance, you keep that insurance. Period, end of story."
- [Rose Garden remarks](#), July 21, 2009: "If you like your current plan, you will be able to keep it. Let me repeat that: If you like your plan, you'll be able to keep it."
- [Remarks in Shaker Heights, Ohio](#), July 23, 2009: "Reform will keep the government out of your health care decisions, giving you the option to keep your coverage if you're happy with it."
- [Town hall in Raleigh, N.C.](#), July 29, 2009: "I have been as clear as I can be. Under the reform I've proposed, if you like your doctor, you keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you keep your health care plan. These folks need to stop scaring everybody. Nobody is talking about you forcing ... to change your plans."
- [Presidential weekly address](#), Aug. 8, 2009: "Under the reforms we seek, if you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan."
- [Town hall in Portsmouth, N.H.](#), Aug. 11, 2009: "Under the reform we're proposing, if you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan."
- [Town hall in Belgrade, Mont.](#), Aug. 14, 2009: "If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan. This is not some government takeover. If you like your doctor, you can keep seeing your doctor. This is important."
- [Presidential weekly address](#), Aug. 15, 2009: "No matter what you've heard, if you like your doctor or health care plan, you can keep it."
- [Town hall in Grand Junction, Colo.](#), Aug. 15, 2009: "I just want to be completely clear about this. I keep on saying this but somehow folks aren't listening — if you like your health care plan, you keep your health care plan. Nobody is going to force you to leave your health care plan. If you like your doctor, you keep seeing your doctor."
- [Remarks to Organizing for America](#), Aug. 20, 2009: "No matter what you've heard, if you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor under the reform proposals that we've put forward. If you like your private health insurance plan, you can keep it."
- [Presidential weekly address](#), Aug. 22, 2009: "Under the reform we seek, if you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. If you like your private health insurance plan, you can keep your plan. Period."

- [Remarks on health care reform](#), March 3, 2010: "If you like your plan, you can keep your plan. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. Because I can tell you that as the father of two young girls, I wouldn't want any plan that interferes with the relationship between a family and their doctor."

- [Presidential weekly address](#), March 6, 2010: "What won't change when this bill is signed is this: If you like the insurance plan you have now, you can keep it. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. Because nothing should get in the way of the relationship between a family and their doctor."

- [Remarks in Glenside, Pa.](#), March 8, 2010: "If you like your plan, you can keep your plan. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor."

- [Remarks in St. Charles, Mo.](#), March 10, 2010: "If you like your plan, you can keep your plan. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor."

- [Remarks in St. Louis, Mo.](#), March 10, 2010: "If you like your plan, you can keep your plan. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. I'm the father of two young girls — I don't want anybody interfering between my family and their doctor."

- [Remarks in Strongsville, Ohio](#), March 15, 2010: "If you like your plan, you can keep your plan. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. I don't want to interfere with people's relationships between them and their doctors."

- [Remarks in Fairfax, Va.](#), March 19, 2010: "If you like your doctor, you're going to be able to keep your doctor. If you like your plan, keep your plan. I don't believe we should give government or the insurance companies more control over health care in America. I think it's time to give you, the American people, more control over your health."

Obama's comments between the law's signing and the release of the HHS regulations

- [White House web page](#): "For those Americans who already have health insurance, the only changes you will see under the law are new benefits, better protections from insurance company abuses, and more value for every dollar you spend on health care. If you like your plan you can keep it and you don't have to change a thing due to the health care law."

- [Remarks in Iowa City, Iowa](#), March 25, 2010: "You like your plan? You'll be keeping your plan. No one is taking that away from you."

- [Remarks in Portland, Maine](#), April 1, 2010: The critics will "see that if Americans like their doctor, they will keep their doctor. And if you like your insurance plan, you will keep it. No one will be able to take that away from you. It hasn't happened yet. It won't happen in the future."

- [White House blog post by Stephanie Cutter](#), May 18, 2010: "A key point to remember is that while the Act makes many changes to the individual market, it specifically allows those who

want to keep their current insurance to do so. Most of the Act's protections apply only to new policies, allowing people to stick with their current plan if they prefer."

After the release of the HHS regulations

- [Kathleen Sebelius blog post](#), June 14, 2010: "The bottom line is that under the Affordable Care Act, if you like your doctor and plan, you can keep them."
- [White House blog post by Stephanie Cutter](#). "Another important step we've taken is to fulfill President Obama's promise that 'if you like your health plan, you can keep it.' Last week, Secretary Sebelius and Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis announced a new rule that protects the ability of individuals and businesses to keep their current plan. It outlines conditions under which current plans can be 'grandfathered' into the system, minimizing market disruption and putting us all on the path toward the competitive, patient-centered market of the future."
- [Remarks on the Affordable Care Act Supreme Court ruling](#), June 28, 2012: "If you're one of the more than 250 million Americans who already have health insurance, you will keep your health insurance — this law will only make it more secure and more affordable."
- [Campaign event in Pittsburgh](#), July 6, 2012: "If you have health insurance, the only thing that changes for you is you're more secure because insurance companies can't drop you when you get sick."
- [Campaign event in Virginia Beach, Va.](#), July 13, 2012: "If you already have health care, the only thing this bill does is make sure that it's even more secure and insurance companies can't jerk you around."
- [First presidential debate in Denver](#), Oct. 3, 2012: "If you've got health insurance, it doesn't mean a government takeover. You keep your own insurance. You keep your own doctor. But it does say insurance companies can't jerk you around."
- [Remarks in Largo, Md.](#), Sept. 26, 2013: "Now, let's start with the fact that even before the Affordable Care Act fully takes effect, about 85 percent of Americans already have health insurance — either through their job, or through Medicare, or through the individual market. So if you're one of these folks, it's reasonable that you might worry whether health care reform is going to create changes that are a problem for you — especially when you're bombarded with all sorts of fear-mongering. So the first thing you need to know is this: If you already have health care, you don't have to do anything."