

***By Jan Schultz, The Imperial Republican News Editor***

Open enrollment for Obamacare started Oct. 1, and unless you have been tuned out of all TV, newspaper, internet or radio reports, you're certainly aware of the big problems the website is having.

After having three years to get ready for this "landmark" legislation and \$500 million earmarked to pay the website contractors, it opened with page crashes, slow service and errors in information recorded.

In addition, as the website's rollout neared, many received notices from their insurance carriers that their policies were being dropped largely because that policy didn't comply with the new mandates in coverage that Obamacare requires. "Many" is likely now millions across the country.

Our son's policy is a good example.

He is a healthy 25-year-old who was on an individual policy. He was happy with it, and it was cheaper for him to be on that one than on mine here at work.

But, since the policy "didn't comply," our carrier sent out what was supposed to be the closest "new policy" they could provide instead if we wanted it. However, his \$500 deductible jumped to a \$6,000 deductible and up went the premium.

Hey, but he now has maternity coverage!

So what happened to the promises made by President Obama that we could keep our policy if we liked it?

He said in 2009 as the law was being written, "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."

So much for promises.

Let's remember that the reason we were told we needed the Affordable Care Act was because of the continual rise in health insurance premiums we were all facing.

Marilyn Tavenner, acting director of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), told a congressional committee Tuesday that rising health care costs have been a small business concern since 1986.

Time will tell if those concerns of business, and all of us, are eased by this health care law. I doubt it.