

January 2017 – Legislative Update / ACA

This past Friday night, President Trump issued an Executive Order directing the agencies to waive, defer, grant exemptions from or delay the implementation of any provision or requirement of the ACA that imposes any cost, fee, penalty or regulatory burden on any individual, health care provider, health insurer or purchaser of health insurance (among others).

While the order doesn't change anything immediately, it does send a strong symbolic message. Federal agencies are left to effectuate the order and could use it to stop enforcing the individual mandate. There continues to be a lot of confusion. Expect a lot more of this to come.

So, in short, it doesn't say "don't enforce the TRF" fee but it provides that **any new imposition of cost, fee, penalty or burden shall not be imposed** and issues an order to the executive heads of the applicable branches of the government to set forth regulation to effectuate the Executive Order.

More guidance will follow as additional clarity is provided by the 'pending' Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Tom Price.