

Supreme Court Upholds Affordable Care Act Against Latest Legal Challenge: No Relief for Employers or Individuals

The Supreme Court announced (6-3) its opinion today in the matter of *King v. Burwell*, that the federal government could issue tax subsidies and tax credits to individuals seeking subsidized health insurance through a federally created exchange. The majority wrote: "Congress passed the Affordable Care Act to improve health insurance markets, not to destroy them. If at all possible, we must interpret the Act in a way that is consistent with the former, and avoids the latter. Section 36B can fairly be read consistent with what we see as Congress' plan, and that is the reading we adopt."

The decision simply affirms the *status quo* under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and does not grant employers or any individuals any relief of any kind from the ACA's many requirements.

A copy of the decision is here:

http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/14pdf/14-114_gol1.pdf