

Statement by A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO, Illinois Health and Hospital Association, on the ruling by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas that the individual mandate in the Affordable Care Act is unconstitutional and that the rest of the law is also invalid:

*"Illinois hospitals and health systems are extremely disappointed by the district court's decision. This ruling threatens access to healthcare coverage for one million Illinoisans who are benefitting from this landmark law, as well as jeopardizes the affordability of insurance for millions of Illinoisans with pre-existing conditions. This ruling puts at real risk the substantial progress we have made to improve the health and well-being of Illinoisans, and we hope the court's decision will be overturned on appeal. In the meantime, the Illinois Health and Hospital Association will continue to advocate for access to healthcare for all Illinoisans."*

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