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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus Stands with SCOTUS, POTUS on Health Care Decision

**Baton Rouge, Louisiana.** We applaud the Supreme Court's 5-4 decision to uphold the President's Affordable Care Act," Chairperson Patricia Smith, House District 67 said today following the announcement.

The landmark health reform, the Affordable Care Act, allows for stronger consumer rights and protections, more affordable coverage, as well as better access to care. 54 million Americans can now receive free preventive services, such as cancer screenings; through their private insurance plan, according to the White House. Now 3.1 million young adults have coverage on a parent's plan through age 26. More than 50,000 Americans with pre-existing conditions have gained coverage through the new Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan.

Today's decision reaffirms the apprehension of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus that the state of Louisiana should not have signed on in the lawsuit considering the number of Louisianans who will benefit from having affordable, accessible and quality healthcare as a result of the Affordable Health Care Act. It is our responsibility to provide access to affordable health care to Americans and today's victory should bring peace of mind to families across our country, more specifically to those of us in Louisiana.

So here are a few facts:

- In Louisiana, 59,700 small businesses could be helped by a new small business tax credit.



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- Last year, roughly 55,700 Medicare beneficiaries in Louisiana hit the donut hole, or gap, in Medicare Part D drug coverage, and received no extra help to defray the cost of their prescription drugs. Medicare beneficiaries in Louisiana who hit the gap this year will automatically be mailed a one-time \$250 rebate check.
- An estimated 60,100 people from Louisiana retired before they were eligible for Medicare and have health coverage through their former employers.
- Unfortunately, the number of firms that provide health coverage to their retirees has decreased over time.
- Finally, Insurance companies will not be able to exclude children from coverage because of a pre-existing condition, giving parents across Louisiana peace of mind.

Overall, the membership of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus stands firmly behind the President of the United States as well as the landmark decision of the Supreme Court to allow policy to supersede politics to aid millions of Americans and thousands of our own constituencies.

*Established in 1977, the primary purpose of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus is to raise the quality of life for African Americans, the indigent and working people through legislation, education and economic development.*