



The Senate Majority Office

Senator Andy Gardiner, Majority Leader

**Contact:**

Allison Fogt, APR  
[fogt.allison@flsenate.gov](mailto:fogt.allison@flsenate.gov)  
(850) 487-5184

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 13, 2010

## **Statement by Senate Majority Leader Andy Gardiner Regarding Federal Health Care Ruling**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Senate Majority Leader Andy Gardiner (R-Orlando) released the following statement following a federal court decision ruling parts of the federal health care law unconstitutional:

“Today’s ruling in Virginia on the federal health care takeover is an important first step towards protecting the constitutional rights of each Floridian. The individual mandate contained in President Obama’s Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act far exceeds the federal government’s powers and establishes a dangerous precedent that would leave states without any recourse for federal action. The health care reform adds more burden to our taxpayers, uncertainty to our small businesses, and strain to our state budget at a time when we should be looking for ways to cut taxes, incentivize job creation, and rein in state spending.”

“While I am confident this ruling will be upheld if appealed, we must continue to pursue every avenue to repeal this unconstitutional provision. I look forward to Thursday’s arguments in Pensacola before Judge Vinson on General McCollum’s lawsuit filed with 20 other states. In addition, the Florida Senate will continue to move forward with President Haridopolos’ SJR 2, the Health Care Freedom Act, which passed the Senate Health Regulation Committee last week and now moves on to the Judiciary Committee.”

### ***Florida Senate Majority Office***

Led by Senator Andy Gardiner, Majority Leader, the Florida Senate Majority Office represents the members of the Majority Party in the Senate. As the political extension of the Office of the Senate President, the Senate Majority Office enables the Republican Caucus to fully participate in the governmental process; providing accurate information and services in a professional manner and enabling members to make unified, informed decisions affecting the quality of life of the people they represent. To learn more, follow [@FLSenateGOP](https://twitter.com/FLSenateGOP) on Twitter, become a fan of “[Florida Senate Majority Office](https://www.facebook.com/FloridaSenateMajorityOffice)” on Facebook, or view member videos at [www.YouTube.com/FLSenateGOP](http://www.YouTube.com/FLSenateGOP).

###