

TODAY'S MUST READS – FEBRUARY 27, 2013

## **HEALTH CARE**

### **CHRISTIE SAYS HE'LL TAKE U.S. MONEY TO EXPAND MEDICAID**

New York Times  
February 26, 2013

Gov. Chris Christie, one of the most strident Republican critics of President Obama's health care overhaul, announced on Tuesday that he would accept federal money to expand the Medicaid program in New Jersey.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/27/nyregion/christie-backs-medicaid-help-from-federal-government.html?hpw>

## **POLITICS**

### **DEFICIT HAWKS' 'GENERATIONAL THEFT' ARGUMENT IS A SHAM**

LA Times  
February 27, 2013

Treating Social Security and Medicare spending on the one hand and spending on kids on the other as though they're opposite sides of a zero-sum game is just an act of ideological legerdemain aimed at undermining those programs.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-hiltzik-20130227,0,1359954.column>

### **THE REPEAL OBAMACARE CHORUS QUIETS**

Politico  
February 27, 2013

Washington's repeal-Obamacare crowd is feeling a little lonely these days, abandoned by an increasing number of Republicans who have bowed to the political reality that the law isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/02/repeal-obamacare-chorus-quiets-88154.html?hp=13>

### **GOP DOUBLES DOWN AGAINST LEW ON MEDICARE SPENDING**

The Hill  
February 27, 2013

Twenty-two GOP senators are demanding the White House submit a plan for curbing Medicare's rising costs before lawmakers consider Jack Lew for Treasury Secretary.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/healthwatch/medicare/285161-gop-doubles-down-against-lew-on-medicare-spending>

## REPUBLICANS ARE LOSING THE SPENDING ARGUMENT

Washington Post  
February 27, 2013

According to a new Washington Post-ABC news poll, 67 percent of those polled disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress are handling federal spending, and only 26 percent approve. 43 percent of the people polled approve of the way President Obama is handling federal spending, and 52 percent disapprove.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-fix/wp/2013/02/27/republicans-are-losing-the-spending-argument/>

## SENATE GOP DIVIDED ON SEQUESTER ALTERNATIVE

Roll Call  
February 26, 2013

A GOP plan to grant federal agencies more flexibility to implement \$85 billion in fiscal 2013 spending cuts worries some Republicans, who fear the White House would use the measure to circumvent congressional budgeting authority

[http://www.rollcall.com/news/senate\\_gop\\_divided\\_on\\_sequester\\_alternative-222654-1.html?pos=hatxt](http://www.rollcall.com/news/senate_gop_divided_on_sequester_alternative-222654-1.html?pos=hatxt)

## PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

### IN MEDICINE, ONE DOSE DOESN'T FIT ALL

LA Times  
February 27, 2013

To ensure that the cure isn't worse than the disease, regulators, medical professionals and patients need to be aware of the spectrum of individuals' responses to drugs, especially for those medicines that have a narrow therapeutic range or that can cause serious side effects when the levels are too high. To minimize adverse reactions, it is often prudent to start a new drug at a very low dose and to increase it until the desired effect is achieved.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-miller-drug-dosages-20130227,0,6503040.story>