



Attorney General Jon Bruning

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# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Note: A sound bite on this topic will be available shortly at: <http://www.ago.ne.gov>**

## **Attorney General Bruning, Colleagues File Lawsuit Challenging Health Care Law**

LINCOLN – Attorney General Jon Bruning, along with 12 other state attorneys general, filed a lawsuit today challenging the Constitutionality of the recently signed health care law.

“For the first time, the federal government is forcing Nebraskans to purchase a good or service,” Bruning said. “Today’s court filing is the first step toward reining in Congress’ unprecedented expansion of power.”

The suit raises questions as to whether or not the law’s “individual mandate,” which forces people to either purchase health insurance or pay a penalty, violates the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

"The Constitution nowhere authorizes the United States to mandate, either directly or under threat of penalty, that all citizens and legal residents have qualifying health care coverage," the lawsuit says.

Also at issue is State Sovereignty, as reserved to the states through the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment. By removing decision-making power from local entities, the federal government is exercising powers not granted to it through the Constitution.

To download the complaint filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida, Pensacola Division, please go to the Attorney General’s Web site at <http://ago.ne.gov/news/releases.htm>

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