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(S.D.)-Health Overhaul Critics Tread Lightly On Medicaid



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 03/07/2014 03:04 PM

By HENRY C. JACKSON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - Sen. John Thune and Rep. Kristi Noem are two of the federal health overhaul's most consistent critics. But the South Dakota Republicans are mostly silent on a key provision of the law in their own state.

Both Thune and Noem say they want the law repealed.

But when asked this week about the state's debate over whether to expand Medicaid coverage, both simply said state officials need to consider the best options and what they can count on in terms of federal money.

Federal officials told Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard this week that they couldn't accept a proposed compromise that would see South Dakota expand Medicaid coverage to 100 percent of the poverty line.