

Comment from: Lester Jackson, Ph.D.

“Of course, the power to defund most of Obamacare is out of the Congress’s hands.”

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The quoted statement disregards Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution, which clearly states: “No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law.”

This is a grant of ABSOLUTE POWER of the purse, not just to Congress but to each of its houses. Congress can override a presidential veto. But if the House of Representatives steadfastly refuses to appropriate money, there is nothing CONSTITUTIONALLY that the president or the senate can do about it.

Of course, POLITICALLY, with the aid of feckless Republicans, much can be done. When Obamacare was rammed through with a stolen Minnesota election, abuse and violation of rules, massive corruption and bribery, complete contempt for the American people and shameless public intimidation of the Chief Justice, Democrats did not worry whether “the power was out of their hands.” By contrast, proponents of pre-emptive surrender have long ruled the Republican roost.

So please let’s not believe that House Republicans do not have the power to defund Obamacare. They gained control in the 2010 election to do just that. Their failure has been pathetic, monumental and tragic. The real issue is not whether they have power but whether they have the courage to use it by standing up to political pressure. Clearly, they do not.

In sum, what House Republicans lack is not Constitutional power but will power.