

**THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT DODGED BY CORPORATE GIANTS: STRATEGY NEEDED TO
ELIMINATE THE LOOPHOLES**

Dr. Marjorie G. Adams, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

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ABSTRACT

One of the most contentious issues of the Administration of President Barak Obama is The Affordable Care Act. Similarly, the 2006 Maryland legislative session involved a bill that had a direct impact on a single company, Wal-Mart. The debate over the specifics of the legislation continued far after the legislative session was over and the same issue has been heightened by the Affordable Care Act. Overall, the Governor, elected officials, the administrators in the health arena, providers, advocates and the general public were increasingly concerned about the growing population of uninsured and under-insured and the rising cost of existing health plans and its impact on the aging population. The health care crisis have led many in the health arena and beyond to scrutinize business practices to make sure that large, profitable businesses that employ large numbers of people contribute their fair share to health care costs for there employees. The impact of this legislation is nominal compared with the number of Americans who were uninsured or under-insured. However, the legislation did send a message to corporate America that it has a responsibility to be an active partner in helping to lessen the health care crisis. Many Americans expect corporate America, and Wal-Mart specifically to provide basic affordable health coverage for the employees who help make the organizations profitable. This paper examines Wal-Mart's approach to the Affordable Care Act and the implications that its actions have for other corporations.

Keywords: *Affordable Care Act/Obamacare, Health Care, Medicaid, Social Responsibility*