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## What a Difference Six Years Makes

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*Hypocrisy: Mitt Romney opposing Affordable Care Act just six years after signing health reform and individual mandate into law in Massachusetts*

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PROVIDENCE, RI – On the six-year anniversary of Mitt Romney signing health reform into law in Massachusetts and laying the groundwork for President Obama’s Affordable Care Act, Rhode Island Democratic Party Chairman Ed Pacheco released the following statement on Romney’s hypocrisy for opposing these landmark health reforms now that he’s running for president:

“As Mitt Romney continues to say anything to get elected – now promising to repeal the Affordable Care Act – it’s hard to believe that it was only six years ago that then-Governor Romney shared the President’s position that we should take on rising health care costs and provide affordable, accessible health care to all Americans. He even included the individual mandate as part of the health reform legislation he signed into law right next door in Massachusetts, which served as the national model for the Affordable Care Act.

“Now, Romney apparently doesn’t believe any of these things. He wants to allow insurance companies to be able to drop your coverage at the very moment you need it most, to continue refusing to cover people with pre-existing conditions, to be able to charge women up to 50 percent more than men for the same coverage, and to have no obligation to cover important preventive care like regular checkups, mammograms, colonoscopies or other cancer screenings.

“What a difference six years has made. Mitt Romney has sold out his principles in order to pander to right-wing Republican voters in the race for the GOP nomination. Romney’s hypocrisy on any number of key issues, including health care reform, goes to the heart of the fundamental flaw of his candidacy: more and more voters are seeing that Romney has no core, and they don’t trust him to lead the country.”

In conjunction with the sixth anniversary, Obama for America released the following video highlighting the anniversary of Romneycare, which Romney said he wanted to serve as a national model for health reform—which it did. Featured in the video are Madelyn Rhenisch, the first Massachusetts resident to enroll in Romneycare; John McDonough, an architect of Massachusetts health care reform and the Affordable Care Act; and Jonathan Gruber, consultant to both the Romney and Obama administrations.

To watch the video, please click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxZK0spa1yI>