

Seceding from Sanity

Written by Rep. Mia McLeod
Saturday, 29 June 2013 11:02 -



Stupid is as stupid does...

And S.C. lawmakers' efforts to "secede from "everything Obama," deserve the kind of characterization that only Forest Gump can give, so if by chance you haven't tuned in to the insanity channel lately, here's what you've missed:

Although the federal Affordable Care Act was upheld as constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court, H.3101 is a bill that prohibits its enforcement in South Carolina and basically says the S.C. General Assembly has sovereign authority to refuse to comply with and/or enforce it; H. 3355 is a bill that prohibits Medicaid Expansion under the Affordable Care Act...just two of many indicators of the (mental) state of our state and its leaders.

And although I don't agree with Republican State Rep. Kris Crawford on much, at least he had the guts to call a spade a spade when he reportedly said during an interview earlier this year, that although he (a physician) supports Medicaid Expansion under the President's health care law, "the politics are going to overwhelm the policy." Why? Well, according to Crawford, "it's good politics to oppose the black guy in the White House right now, especially for the Republican Party."

Exactly.

Thank you, Dr. Crawford, for telling the people of South Carolina the ugly truth about why our

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Governor and your Republican colleagues in the House and Senate have refused over 300,000 hard-working South Carolinians the healthcare they need and deserve, while forfeiting 44,000 new jobs and billions of dollars in economic investment that would've infused our struggling economy.

I couldn't have described the S.C. GOP's insanity more eloquently or accurately. But as the majority party has proven time after time...knowing what's right is one thing. Actually doing what's right is another. So, like his Republican colleagues, Dr. Crawford abandoned his own principles and voted with his Party to reject Medicaid Expansion and your federal tax dollars.

They say the definition of insanity is continuing to do the same thing the same way, expecting a different result. And while our leaders' actions prove that resurrecting the sins of our state's sordid and racially charged history doesn't make for sound or progressive public policy, one of the reasons insanity is easily recognizable is because the actions associated with it are so over the top and out of sync with what society considers normal, logical or rational...which describes practically every legislative day at the State House.

And we're not even done yet.

There's H.3556, also known as the S.C. Balance of Powers Act, which basically asserts the state's sovereignty under the S.C. Constitution to protect the rights of South Carolinians against infringement of our constitutionally protected rights by means of any federal statute, mandate, executive order (or "anything Obama"), and even creates a "Joint Legislative Committee on the Neutralization of Federal Law."

Or how about H.3583 and H.3399, which are Resolutions that basically disallow the pursuit of any incentives that may be provided by federal law and nullify any Executive Order of the President of the United States that Republicans consider an infringement upon our 2nd Amendment right to bear arms, like universal background checks (or "anything Obama").

Seriously...I couldn't make this stuff up.

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Then, there's H.3096 – also known as “The State Health Care Freedom Act,” which basically says our state must not establish, operate or participate in a Health Benefit Exchange, pursuant to the Affordable Care Act, and H.3473, which would also prohibit implementation of the federal Act by voiding any health insurance contracts that are executed under it and allowing the S.C. Attorney General to bring an action against any person or entity “causing harm” when implementing it.

For those of us who are sane, it's more obvious than ever, who's “causing harm” to the people of South Carolina.

Add a host of similar Senate bills to the mix and you've got a nullification, “opt-out of anything Obama” extravaganza. And the people of this state continue to get what they've gotten from their elected leaders who run the asylum...nothing.

How's that for moving South Carolina forward?

Sadly for sane South Carolinians, this anti-Obama excursion our so-called leaders have taken us on since 2008 may offer everything we need to secede, but absolutely nothing we need to succeed.

At this point, I'm not even sure they know the difference.