Outline for Legal and Regulatory Environment of Healthcare

* 1. Introduction

President Barack Obama's administration aimed to transform the American health care system by introducing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This Act became controversial and raised several questions that resulted in the discourse regarding the Act's constitutionality. The *National Federation of Independent Business V. Sebelius* remained a concerned and significant case in the Supreme Court, which was to be analyzed, reevaluated, and regulated based on the federal government's enforcement.

* 1. The Constitutional Issues

The reevaluation and disagreement of the Act brought several constitutional issues, including the individual mandate and expansion of Medicaid across the United States. The individual mandate required civilians to purchase health insurance. However, the Court considered the Act to be constitutional under Power to Tax.

* 1. The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court also examined Medicaid Expansion and described it as coercive based on the penalty in noncompliance. For instance, it requires that those States that would fail to comply could not benefit from any Medicaid funding and would attract a payback covering the Medicaid funding given. The ACA outlines how the penalty would be paid, especially to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), together with individual's taxes. Such fines and taxes would be assessed and collected similar to tax penalties.

* 1. Clauses

Individual mandate also had other issues, including the Commerce Clause, Necessary and Proper Clause. The Commerce Clause describes the order given to Congress by section 8 of the constitution of the authority to regulate commerce in various States. The Commercial Clause regarding NFIB v. Sebelius holds a key constitutional concern about the regulation of PPACA's mandate.

* 1. Medicaid Expansion

Medicaid Expansion is aimed at increasing individuals' coverage among the States to meet the interest of all. The Affordable Care Act needs state programs to cater for Medicaid coverage to individuals with incomes ranging from 133% to the federal property level. The Medicaid Expansion and the constitution under Article/Section eight provide Congress a mandate to spend money for debts, general welfare, and defense of the United States.

2.1 Critics

However, the Act faced numerous critics, especially across the political spectrum, outlining its negative consequences differently. For instance, most of the leading lights from the far left criticized Obamacare, which goes all the way to socialized medicine as an alternative to the single-payer/ public option defeated in the Congress.

2.2 Conclusion

The United States Supreme Court's decision regarding the National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius was based on four significant issues related to the ACA legality. First, the decision was to address Congress's power to enact the individual insurance coverage requirement under the federal constitution. Therefore, the NFIB case brought several issues that transformed the health care system in the United States.