

P6/b(6)

Sent: Wed, 23 Oct 2013 09:36:10 -0400
From: "Jarrett, Valerie" <valerie_jarrett@who.eop.gov>
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Politico: David Axelrod: 'Kick butt' to fix Obamacare site

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 9:21 AM
To: DL-WHO-Press; DL-WHO-Healthcare
Subject: Politico: David Axelrod: 'Kick butt' to fix Obamacare site

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/10/david-axelrod-obamacare-site-98725.html?hp=f1>

David Axelrod: 'Kick butt' to fix Obamacare site

Politico // Tal Kopan

Updated 8:44 AM

Former White House senior adviser David Axelrod says if he were still in the Obama administration, he would be more forthcoming about the problems with the Obamacare exchange website, saying he doesn't understand why communication has been murky.

"They need to be forthcoming with the public and report on a regular basis as to the progress that's being made, as to the problems that are being addressed, so people understand that there is work under way," Axelrod said on MSNBC's "The Last Word" on Tuesday night. "This has been shrouded in a little bit of mystery. I don't quite understand why that is; I think it's better to be straightforward about it."

The MSNBC contributor said he'd also be delivering a butt-kicking to make sure the problems were fixed quickly.

(PHOTOS: Obamacare online glitches: 25 great quotes)

"[If] I were in the White House, I would be communicating regularly on those fixes, but I also would be very, very tough on the people who are responsible to get those fixes done quickly," Axelrod said. "I'd be, as I'm sure they are, kicking a bunch of folks in the butt every day to make sure that what needs to be done is being done."

Axelrod's comments stand along other former White House officials who have been critical of the administration for the website rollout, including former Office of Management and Budget health policy adviser Ezekiel Emanuel, who called for daily briefings, and former press secretary Robert Gibbs, who said people responsible should be fired.