By-elections a test of democratic principles

Albert Cheng

The long-awaited debate over the pan-democrats' mass resignation plan, which has finally reached a conclusion this month, has revealed a great deal about Hong Kong's political parties and political culture. The Democratic Party, led by Martin Lee and Emily Lau, has won a decisive victory, while the pro-Beijing camp has suffered a significant blow.

The resignation was expected to occur in early 2010, but the situation has been complicated by the appointment of John Tsang as the new Financial Secretary. This has given the pro-Beijing camp a new opportunity to strengthen its position, as it has been able to introduce a new electoral policy that will make it easier for pro-Beijing candidates to win seats in the upcoming by-elections.

A political activity is carried out within the parameters of the law, we shouldn’t try to suppress it, but rather constructively respond to it.

Eugene Robinson

When it all said and done, the health care system in the United States is probably not as bad as we thought it was. President Barack Obama now seems prepared to sign into law a health care reform bill. The bill makes very few changes to the way the Senate’s version of the legislation is expected to be passed. The problem is that the Senate version of the bill has not been released yet, and it is not clear whether the House and Senate versions will be able to be reconciled in a timely manner.

If we fail to make meaningful changes to the health care system, then we will be left with a broken system that is unaffordable for most Americans.

The bill includes provisions that will allow people to buy insurance through a new public exchange. It also includes provisions that will provide a tax credit to people who purchase insurance through the exchange. These provisions are designed to help low-income people afford insurance.

In addition, the bill includes provisions that will provide a subsidy to people who purchase insurance through the exchange. This subsidy will be available to people with incomes up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level.

Medical aid must be fair and ensure that the vast majority of people have access to quality care.

Albert Cheng is a Hong Kong-based writer and commentator.