

WHY WE MUST OPPOSE THE CURRENT HEALTH CARE REFORM BILLS!

President Obama, in his joint address to Congress on September 9th, dismissed as lies concerns about Government intrusion into end of life issues. He also claimed there will not be federal funding of abortions and conscience protections will stay in effect. However, he did not comment on the amendments already passed in both houses that specifically permit federal dollars to fund abortion or the defeated amendment in the Senate to add conscience protections. These obvious discrepancies lead us to ask questions about a few of the many concerns in the convoluted 1,017 page bill before the House: **HR 3200**.

Will health care be available for all? Will it be rationed?

- HR 3200, Sec. 1121, Pg. 239, The Government will limit and reduce physician services for Medicaid. Scattered throughout H.R. 3200 are \$500 Billion in cuts to Medicare. ***Seniors, low income, and the poor are affected!***
- HR 3200, Sec. 1151, p. 284-288, titled “Reducing potentially preventable hospital readmissions” gives the Government the power to determine who is allowed re-admission into a hospital. Page 288 states, “There shall be no administrative or judicial review.” This phrase is scattered throughout the bill. :
By preventing any appeal to rationing, the Secretary of HHS is above the courts!
- Buried in the stimulus bill passed in February (The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Title VIII, Section 804) is \$1.1 BILLION to establish a Federal Council on Comparative Effectiveness Research. Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, a member of this Council and also a health-policy advisor to the White House proposed a “complete lives” system to determine the “appropriate” allocation of scarce health care resources. He notes that under this system, **“Individuals aged between roughly 15 and 40 years get the most substantial chance [of receiving care], whereas the youngest and oldest people” will have fewer chances of receiving care.** (“Principles for Allocation of Scarce Medical Interventions”, *The Lancet*, January 31, 2009; “Obama’s Health Rationer-in-Chief,” *Wall Street Journal*, August 27, 2009)
Seniors, premature babies and young children will get less care under this philosophy!

Does HR 3200 require end of life consultations for the elderly?

- HR 3200, Section 1233, p. 424-434 amends Medicare to include “Advance Care Planning Consultations” to discuss future end-of-life choices every five years, and more often if the patient becomes sick or enters a nursing home. Practitioners must explain “the continuum of end-of-life services” which may include whether to receive antibiotics and “...the use of artificially administered nutrition and hydration.” Supposedly, consultations are optional; however the bill permits the HHS Secretary to mandate providers to push end of life consultations as a condition for participation in Medicare. Physicians are **required to report to the government** about whether end of life orders and advanced care directives have been adhered to (p.432, lines 7-9).
(<http://www.bdfund.org/obamacare.asp>)

This conversation, previously held between the patient, family and doctor, will now have a new member, the Government, whose stated goal is to “reduce health care spending...” (HR 3200, p.1). A slippery slope towards euthanasia to save a few bucks!

Will taxpayer funding of abortions be included?

- Without specific language excluding taxpayer funds from paying for abortions, it will be mandated. In July, an amendment to HR 3200 (offered by Rep. Lois Capps, D-CA) passed which authorizes the “public plan” to cover all elective abortions and provides subsidies to plans that include abortion. (<http://www.factcheck.org/2009/08/abortion-which-side-is-fabricating> & <http://www.nrlc.org/AHC/HR3200NRLCfactsheet.pdf>)
This would drastically change longstanding federal policy on tax dollars for abortion!

Will Planned Parenthood be in our schools and communities with their “comprehensive health services”?

- HR 3200, Sec. 2511, p. 992 titled School-Based Health Clinics will award grants for health clinics in schools, operated by outside organizations to provide “**comprehensive primary health services and additional health services.**”
This is Planned Parenthood’s piece of the action to prescribe birth control or refer students for abortions without parental notification!

Will HR 3200 allow protection for health care providers, religious entities and all Americans to act according to their conscience?

- There is no specific language that explicitly permits doctors or health care providers to opt-out of doing abortions or other care that would put them at odds with their deeply held religious beliefs. Attempts to insert such language into the Senate proposals have been defeated.

Health care providers who oppose abortion, euthanasia, and/or rationing will be forced to leave the medical profession!

TAKE ACTION: Pray! Write and Fax a letter, E-mail, Call and/or Visit:

Contact your Congressman and ask him to vote against HR 3200.

8th Congressional District: Jim Moran, Phone: (202) 225-4376, Fax: (202) 225-0017

E-Mail: http://moran.house.gov/email_contact.shtml

11th Congressional District: Gerry Connolly, Phone: (202) 225-1492, Fax 202-225-3071

E-Mail: <http://gerryconnolly.house.gov/?sectionid=50§iontree=3,50>

Contact Both Senators and ask them to vote against the Senate Health Care Bill.

Senator Mark Warner: Phone: (202) 224-2023 Fax: (202) 224-6295

E-Mail: <http://warner.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Contact>

Senator Jim Webb: Phone: (202) 224-4024 Fax: (202) 228-6363 <http://webb.senate.gov/contact>

FIND YOUR CONGRESSMAN AND SENATORS IN YOUR STATE OR DISTRICT:

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>

HR 3200: <http://thomas.loc.gov/> Click on HR 3200

Senate Bill: http://help.senate.gov/BAI09A84_xml.pdf

HR3200 Overview: http://www.lc.org/media/9980/attachments/healthcare_overview_obama_072909.pdf

Latest information on many of these issues: www.nrlc.org