



Post Office Box 7962
Metairie, Louisiana 70010
TP 504.835.6520
FX 504.835.6522
TF 1.866.463.5433
www.prolifelouisiana.org

21 December 2009

Dear Congressman,

We are writing to urge you to oppose health care reform legislation especially if the Stupak-Pitts language, which you valiantly supported, does not remain in the final legislation.

The House (H.R. 3962) and Senate (H.R. 3590) bills treat the issue of abortion very differently.

In the House, the Stupak-Pitts Amendment reflects current federal policy by:

- Permanently prohibiting the new federal government insurance program, the "public option," from paying for abortion, except to save the life of the mother, or in cases of rape or incest; and
- Permanently prohibiting the use of the new federal premium subsidies to purchase private insurance plans that cover abortion (except to save the life of the mother, or in cases of rape or incest).

In the Senate, with the "public option" removed, the Reid-Nelson language deviates from current federal policy on abortion by:

- Allowing the federal government to subsidize private insurance plans that cover abortion on demand, to oversee multi-state plans that cover elective abortions, and to empower federal officials to mandate that private health plans cover abortions even if they do not accept subsidized enrollees.

The Senate language is far removed from the Stupak-Pitts Amendment, and in accord with National Right to Life, we firmly believe only the Stupak-Pitts Amendment is acceptable.

If conference negotiations retain the Reid-Nelson Senate language in place of the Stupak-Pitts Amendment, we implore you to *strongly* oppose the passage of the legislation. If the Stupak-Pitts language is not present, then a vote for the legislation is a vote in favor of federally subsidized abortions.

We have attached a letter from National Right to Life sent to all Senators examining the Senate legislation and manager's amendment. Not only does it provide more details on the abortion issue, but it also supplies our concerns regarding end-of-life issues.

Feel free to contact us to discuss any of these matters, and have a merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Sharon Ryan Rodi
Legislative Director

Benjamin Clapper
Executive Director

