

Pro-Life Wisconsin



Defending them all...

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Tell Washington that abortion is not healthcare!

Abortion is at the heart of President Obama's health care reform effort. He said so himself at a Planned Parenthood Action Fund event in July 2007: *"Well, look, in my mind reproductive care is essential care, basic care so it is at the center, the heart of the plan that I propose."* Obama went so far as to say that all insurers would have to cover abortion under any new system: *"Insurers are going to have to abide by the same rules in terms of providing comprehensive care, including reproductive care... that's going to be absolutely vital."*

Following the President's lead, the United States Congress is currently working on several health care reform bills (one in the House and two in the Senate) that if passed would undoubtedly result in a vast expansion of surgical abortions in America. **The grave concern is that the "essential benefits package" in the government-sponsored health plan includes abortion coverage.** Because both public and private health plans would be required to meet this minimum benefit mandate, individuals and businesses would be forced to pay for abortions through their premium contributions. I say forced because individuals would be required to get coverage – and employers to offer it – or face financial penalties.

As part of a basic benefits package, abortion would receive massive federal subsidization and mandated creation of clinics to guarantee access to this mandated service. It is also likely that state statutory restrictions on access to abortion, such as informed consent laws with waiting periods and parental consent laws, would be nullified in the face of this new federal law. Pro-life medical professionals may also be in jeopardy if they conscientiously refuse to perform or aid in performing abortions. Quite simply, **this is FOCA by stealth – an underhanded attempt to mainstream abortion into America's healthcare system.**

The Alan Guttmacher Institute, a pro-abortion research group generally known for its accuracy, recently released a new report admitting that 20 of 24 academic studies on the subject show that cutting taxpayer-funding for abortions reduced the number of abortions. One can therefore conclude that increasing public funding for abortions will increase the number of abortions.

According to Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ), chairman of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, *"Obamacare is the greatest threat ever to the lives and wellness of unborn children and their mothers since Roe v. Wade was rendered in 1973... Despite Mr. Obama's statement to the Pope that he wants to reduce abortion, the ugly truth is that his so-called health care reform bill, if enacted, will lead to millions of additional dead children and wounded mothers... Unless the legislation explicitly excludes abortion by amendment, abortion will be forced on every health plan in America."*

On July 23 more than 36,000 pro-lifers across the country representing more than 70 pro-life and pro-family organizations joined together to address the abortion mandate crisis. The largest pro-life Web cast in history, **StopTheAbortionMandate.com**, highlighted the federal government's current attempt to force all Americans to pay for abortions through their tax dollars and health insurance premiums. A veritable "who's who" of national pro-life leaders including Jim Sedlak of American Life League, Fr. Frank Pavone of Priests

for Life, Wendy Wright of Concerned Women of America and David Bereit of *40 Days for Life* explained the crisis and told us what we can do to stop it.

TAKE ACTION NOW!

Congressional Democrats have already voted down pro-life amendments in committee that would have excluded federal funding or mandated coverage for abortion. President Obama hoped to force this legislation through Congress before the August recess, but Congress stalled due to the outcry of pro-lifers and others wary about a government takeover of health care.

Contact your U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators by phone and email and urge them to “KEEP ABORTION OUT OF HEALTHCARE! Please oppose any federal health care reform bill that does not specifically exclude abortion.”

You may go to <http://waml.legis.state.wi.us/> for Wisconsin Congressional Delegation contact information (after typing in your street address, scroll down to U.S. Congress to find your U.S. representative and U.S. senators). Or call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

You may also go to stoptheabortionmandate.com and scroll down to “How YOU can make a difference” and follow the directions for calling and emailing your congressman and senators.

Thank you for your prayers and action, and may God bless this united pro-life effort.