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July 9, 2009

Abortion Advocates Say Health Care Restructuring Covers Abortion

Dear Colleague,

Next week House Committees will markup health care legislation. Under the proposed legislation, virtually every individual will be required to have health care that meets minimum benefits standards established by the administration. **Those minimum benefits will include abortion unless Congress acts to explicitly exclude abortion from any government mandated coverage or taxpayer funded health plan.**

History has shown that if abortion is not explicitly excluded unelected bureaucrats or courts will interpret silence as authorization to mandate coverage for abortion services and pay for abortion on demand. That is why the annual Hyde funding limitation became necessary. But, if you are still wondering whether the broad terms in the bill will include abortion, just look at what abortion advocates, President Obama and Secretary Clinton have had to say about abortion and health care. (see below)

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
Member of Congress



President Barack Obama during a question and answer period at a Planned Parenthood Action Fund Event on July 17, 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...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.



Secretary of State Hilary Clinton said this before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on April 22, 2009

“Reproductive health includes access to abortion... We are now an Administration that will protect the rights of women, including their rights to reproductive health care.”

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gEA97EnxE4&feature=channel_page



On their website NAF says:

NAF supports health care reform as a way to increase access to comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion care, for all women.

<http://www.prochoice.org/policy/issues/healthcare.html>



In an email action alert regarding health care reform issued July 1, 2009, RCRC President Reverend Carlton W. Veazey said:

“Let there be no mistake, basic healthcare includes abortion services.”

<http://capwiz.com/rcrc/issues/alert/?alertid=13868956&type=TA>



NARAL: Pro-Choice America president Nancy Keenan spoke to the American Prospect about the health care debate. She said:

“(I)f, indeed, we can advance a panel or commission, then I am very optimistic about reproductive health care being part of this entire package.”

http://www.prospect.org/csnc/blogs/tapped_archive?month=07&year=2009&base_name=naral prez nancy keenan on hea



Planned Parenthood president Cecile Richards, said this on NPR on April 30, 2009

“I think the big picture here is how do we make sure that all women and families, regardless of their income, can get access to the full range of health care options, and I think health care reform is going to provide a platform for doing that.”

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=103667590>



A RHRealityCheck.org blogger wrote the following about what Wendy Chavkin, former Board chair of Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health said in a forum:

“health reform is the issue to insist upon for Obama for his first term – he needs the victory. ‘He needs us.’ Public option is key, and using ‘medical standard of care’ in language instead of listing reproductive services that will siphon off votes.”

<http://www.rhrealitycheck.org/reader-diaries/2009/06/11/liveblogging-ncrws-reproductive-rights-panel>