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AT NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE

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# LIFE AT RISK:

**What the Obama Health Care Plan Means for You and Your Loved Ones**

# LIFE AT RISK:

## **How the Obama Health Care Plan Will Ration Your Family's Medical Treatment**

*On March 23, 2010 President Obama signed into law a fundamental restructuring of the American health care system. What will happen under this law if it is not repealed by sometime in 2014?*

### **A POWERFUL RATIONING COMMISSION:**

An 18-member "Independent Payment Advisory Board" is given the duty, on January 15, 2015 and every two years thereafter, with regard to private (not just governmentally funded) health care, to make "recommendations to slow the growth in national health expenditures" below the rate of medical inflation.

### **HOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL FORCE DOCTORS TO LIMIT CARE:**

The Commission's recommendations are to be ones "that the Secretary [of Health and Human Services] or other Federal agencies can implement administratively." In turn, the Secretary of Health and Human Services is empowered to impose "quality and efficiency" measures on hospitals, requiring them to report on their compliance with them. Doctors will have to comply with such quality measures in order to be able to contract with any qualified health insurance plan.

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### **WHAT THIS WILL MEAN FOR YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH CARE:**

Basically, doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers will be told by Washington just what diagnostic tests and medical care are considered to meet "quality and efficiency" standards – not only for federally funded programs like Medicare, but also for health care paid for by private citizens and their nongovernmental health insurance.

And these will be standards *specifically designed to limit what ordinary Americans may choose to spend on health care so that it is BELOW the rate of medical inflation.*

Treatment that a doctor and patient deem needed or advisable to save that patient's life or preserve or improve the patient's health but which runs afoul of the imposed standards will be denied, *even if the patient is willing and able to pay for it.*

In effect, there will be one uniform national standard of care, established by Washington bureaucrats and set with a view to limiting what private citizens are allowed to spend on saving their own lives.