

## LIFE AMENDMENTS IN HOUSE AND SENATE

If either the House or Senate health care overhaul legislation does not include abortion as many legislators say – either by funding abortion services, funding health care plans that cover abortion services, or mandating that plans cover abortion – then why not just write that into the bill? Below is a list of amendments which demonstrate that abortion would be covered under the health care legislation, because every attempt to amend the legislation to say that “abortion is not to be funded or mandated” has failed.

Additionally, an amendment to include abortion in the health care legislation passed in one House committee. Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.), the author of a Senate amendment to extend health coverage aimed at “pregnant women,” admitted under pressure that this would include groups like Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion provider. Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.) recently told a townhall meeting that “[A]bortion will be covered as a benefit by one or more of the health care plans available to Americans.” Finally, many news outlets, including the Associated Press (AP), have admitted that the bill would cover abortion.

Despite these facts criticism continues over whether the health care reform bills moving through Congress would fund and mandate abortion services. Some pro-abortion supporters of health care legislation still argue that “abortion is not in there.” Fortunately you don’t just have to take the word of Family Research Council, a bipartisan coalition of pro-life and pro-abortion legislators, and the Associated Press. The truth is, the health care bills moving through Congress would include abortion, something over 71 percent of Americans oppose.

Below is a comprehensive list of amendments offered this summer in committees of both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Each amendment that would have ensured that abortion would not be a part of the health care overhaul was defeated by pro-abortion members of Congress.



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## HOUSE COMMITTEE VOTES JULY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 17<sup>TH</sup>, 30<sup>TH</sup> AND 31<sup>ST</sup>

- **Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX) Amendment in the Ways and Means Committee (7/16/09):** This amendment would have prevented the government from mandating abortion coverage. **Failed 18-23.**
- **Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA) Amendment in the Ways and Means Committee (7/16/09):** This amendment would have explicitly prevented taxpayers' funds from paying for or subsidizing abortion. **Failed 19-22.**
- **Rep. Mark Souder (R-IN) Amendment in the Education and Labor Committee (7/17/09):** This amendment would have prevented the government from mandating abortion coverage. **Failed 19-29.**
- **Rep. Mark Souder (R-IN) Amendment in the Education and Labor Committee (7/17/09):** This amendment would have explicitly prevented taxpayers' funds from paying for or subsidizing abortion. **Failed 19-29.**
- **Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA) Amendment in the Energy and Commerce Committee (7/30/09):** This amendment allows abortion coverage in the public health plan, and subsidizes health plans that cover abortion. Six Democrats voted "no" and all Republicans voted "no" except Rep. Murphy who did not vote. Rep. Bart Stupak, Rep. Mike Ross, Rep. Jim Matheson, Rep. Charlie Melancon, Rep. John Barrow, and Rep. Baron Hill voted "no." **Passed 30-28.**
- **Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA) Amendment in the Energy and Commerce Committee (7/30/09):** This amendment would have prevented the government from mandating abortion coverage. **Failed 30-29.**
- **Rep. Bart Stupak (D-MI), Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA), and Rep. Lee Terry (R-IN) Amendment in the Energy and Commerce Committee (7/30/09):** This amendment protects healthcare providers from government discrimination based upon their refusal to participate in abortion. **Agreed to by a voice vote.**
- **Rep. Bart Stupak (D-MI) and Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA) amendment in Energy and Commerce Committee (7/31/09):** This amendment would have explicitly prevented taxpayers' funds from paying for or subsidizing abortion. **Failed 31-27.**

## SENATE HELP COMMITTEE VOTES JULY 13<sup>TH</sup>

- **Senator Orrin Hatch's (R-UT) Amendment. # 227:** This amendment would have prevented funding for or subsidizing abortion. **Failed 12-11** with Senator Robert Casey (D-PA) and the Republicans voting for it.

- **Senator Tom Coburn's (R-OK) Amendment # 246:** This amendment would have codified the Hyde/Weldon conscience protection law. **Failed 12-11** with Senator Casey (D-PA) and Republicans voting for it.
- **Senator Michael Enzi's (R-WY) Amendment #277:** This amendment would have prevented the government from mandating abortion coverage. **Failed 12-11** with Senator Casey (D-PA) and Republicans voting for it.
- **Senator Edward Kennedy's (D-MA) Amendment #205:** This amendment provides vague conscience protections for refusing to "perform" abortion, but does not indirectly refuse to refer for or participate in abortion and has an emergency exception rendering any protections meaningless. **Passed by voice vote** after some confusion, though Senator Enzi and other Senators clearly objected to it.
- **Senator Tom Coburn's (R-OK) Amendment #237:** This amendment will protect conscience rights with regard to participating in euthanasia. **Passed by voice vote.**
- **Senator Tom Coburn's (R-OK) Amendment # 272:** This amendment would have prevented the healthcare bill from preempting state laws on abortion. **Failed 12-11** with Senator Casey and Republicans voting for it.