

The Great Health Care Scam and Why Rush Holt has to go!

Using bribes, gimmicks and deceit, Rush Holt and other Democrats in the House of Representatives finally passed the health care bill on Sunday March 21, 2010 – a day that I believe we will long regret.

Taxes on capital gains, dividends, and Medicare are just a few of the taxes that will be going up. According to an analysis by the *Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation*, the American people will pay an additional \$409.2 billion through 2018. If you frequent tanning salons, be prepared to pay a 10% excise tax.

In a press release lauding passage, Mr. Holt stated the current health care system is too expensive, causing families and businesses to struggle to afford health care. Mr. Holt's comments demonstrate why he needs to be defeated in November. It is quite apparent that Mr. Holt does not understand the principle of unintended consequences, basic economics and the bill he voted on. His statement leads me to question whether he even bothered to read the bill before voting on it.

Businesses in New Jersey and elsewhere will face more “scrutiny from the IRS” thanks to Mr. Holt and his Democrat colleagues. The IRS will be the chief enforcer of this new “health care” system, enforcing compliance of the “economic and financial decisions about how and when health care is paid for, and when health insurance is purchased.” How does this square with Mr. Holt's feign of concern for businesses?

How will increased costs to businesses, which will be discouraged from hiring new employees, lead to affordable health care? Mr. Holt seems to think what businesses and the people of New Jersey have been pining for is more intervention from the IRS.

President Obama, Congressman Holt and the others who voted for this bill are trying to reduce the cost of health care premiums by arbitrarily regulating health care expenses. Of course, this cannot work. It has been tried many times before with disastrous results. Anyone who has paid attention to the Medicare debacle has seen a mini version of the Health Care plan. For those unaware, Medicare is about to go broke.

Does anyone recall a few years ago, California's energy crisis? A Democrat Governor, Gray Davis, and a Democrat controlled Legislature passed laws regulating how much the utility companies could charge the citizens of their fair state. The fact that the amount charged was less than the cost to produce didn't faze California's fearless leaders. Shortly thereafter, the power blackouts began. Energy producers refused to sell energy at a loss to the “Golden State.” Instead of admitting their economic ignorance, the Democrats blamed it on “deregulation” even though the utilities are and were heavily regulated to the tune of thousands of pages of rules and regulations.

What makes passage of this legislation even harder to explain is the fact that there is a way to lower the cost, while providing affordable and better coverage. A true free market solution is available if only those in Washington were not blinded by their own arrogance. Here's my view of how we should solve the Healthcare problem:

Step One: Every American would be able to open a Health Savings Account (HSA) for their family or as an individual, either funded by individual/families income or by their employer. The funds would be pre-tax. The HSA would belong to the individual/family and not the employer or the government. This would allow the policy owner to change jobs without fear of a lapse in coverage.

Step Two: The individual/family would have the opportunity to purchase an insurance policy from any insurance company in the nation. No longer would state boundaries be allowed to keep out free and open competition. The policy chosen would be the one that best meets the needs of the individual/family and not the needs of the employer or the government. Since most Americans with the exception of politicians and liberals, understand that insurance was designed to cover major claims such as serious illness, disease or accident, they would opt for insurance that covers catastrophic events, not everyday ones.

The cost of insurance premiums would go down. The balance of the money in the HSA account would be used for everyday health care events. Excess funds would remain in the HSA account to build up a reserve for the future. This feature would give Americans a strong incentive to take better care of their health.

The individual/family would be free to go to any doctor or health care professional of their choosing. No longer would adult men and women have to ask permission from a third party (insurance company and/or government) to see a specific doctor. And the doctor would be paid cash or covered under the insurance policy the individual / family chose. A health care provider, in a free market situation, being paid directly with no endless forms to fill out, no bureaucratic agencies to deal with, thereby costs and prices will go down.

This has been proven over the last 20 years. Lasik surgery and plastic surgery are two health care procedures that have become less expensive while the quality of these procedures has gone up. In short, thanks to free market competition, efficiency and quality have increased. Does anyone believe that if they had been covered by insurance or some government sponsored health care plan that the cost of these procedures would have declined?

It is time for us to say we have “had enough” and show Mr. Holt and the other big government representatives the door out of Washington. Vote for me, Dave Corsi in the Republican primary on June 8th and we will make history in November.

David Corsi