

Dear Friend,

In 1787, when the Constitutional Convention decided not to reform the weak Articles of Confederation but rather assemble a new constitution, they faced a tremendous challenge in gaining the support of the citizens of this young nation. The process lasted for months and included numerous public "townhall" type meetings. Many of these meetings were held in churches, moderated by prominent pastors.

No one thought the church an odd setting for discussing the fundamental issues of government. The church had been, from days of the earliest settlements in the New World, the focal point of education, debate and action about the most pressing moral and political matters of the day.

Today must be no different. The leaders God has raised up for His people have to be ready to proclaim "the whole counsel of God" concerning the Bible's clear instructions about the sacredness of human life, from conception ("You knit me in my mother's womb" – Ps. 139:13) to natural death ("precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" – Ps. 116:15).

This is more urgent than perhaps ever before, because under the proposed health insurance scheme being advanced by President Obama and his allies in Congress, Americans would be compelled to:

- Pay for abortion on demand by financing insurance companies that pay for abortion services.
- Fund the leading provider of abortion in the nation, Planned Parenthood.
- Foot the bill for voluntary physician consults on end-of-life treatment options, including withdrawal of food and hydration.
- Pay for abortifacient contraceptives.

Additionally, the Obama proposal fails to protect vital conscience rights for health care providers, thereby exposing them to the threat of being required to perform abortion-related services.

As you will see in the documents we have linked at the bottom of the page, these are indisputable facts, not assertions, and are confirmed by sources as diverse as the Associated Press and the Obama Administration itself.

We are calling on pastors and Christian leaders nationwide to hold forums in your churches where these matters can be discussed and exposed. And it's to that end that we are sending you the material in this package - so that you can create your own townhall meeting, just as our

founding pastors did more than two centuries ago, to inform and activate the people in your pews and communities.

This is not about politics, and there is no need to fear any breach of IRS rules concerning what a church can and cannot do. The federal government is proposing policies that affront essential Christian teaching, and whether you are a Democrat or Republican, these matters go to the heart of the proclamation of the truth we, as believers, are charged to deliver.

Moreover, Christian people need to know that's happening in DC and how it will affect them - the use of their tax dollars, the way medical care will be provided to their unborn babies and their elderly loved ones, and even the conscientious objections of health care professionals who refuse to dispense abortifacient drugs.

Again, there are no IRS issues regarding political participation, as this is not a political discussion about candidates or elections. This is a public policy discussion in which churches have a right and responsibly to engage.

Take a few moments to review the Townhall Kit we are attaching through the Internet links below. We are providing you with all the material you will need to conduct a powerful, respectful and informative event.

Our Founders understood that without the churches of America, the new nation could never have been formed. Without the churches today, I would argue it cannot be sustained. Your role in this effort is critical, and thank you for all you are doing for our country and its future.

Sincerely,

Tony Perkins President,

FRC Action



Links to Townhall Kit Resources:

Click the links below to access the kit's printable [PDF] documents and web resources.

Sample Townhall Agenda

Sample Press Release Announcement

Sample Invitation Letter to Congressmen and Senators

20 Questions to Ask Your Legislator About Health Care Overhaul

Q and A: Government Health Care and Abortion

10 Reasons Rationing Is In The Health Care Overhaul

Seven Reasons Abortion Is In The Health Care Overhaul

Printable Petition to Keep Abortion Out of Health Care Reform

Sermon Starter: The Wrong Prescription for America

Church Bulletin Insert

Special Web Video Alert

Listing of State Family Policy Councils