

A Dozen Good Reasons to Oppose the Health Care Overhaul

- 1) **Abortion.** The Senate bill would lead to government funded abortions. [There are numerous reasons why that is true](#), including the bill text itself. Additionally just listen to pro-life Members like [Rep. Bart Stupak \(D-Mich.\)](#) and organizations such as the [U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) both of whom support a government run health care system – but oppose the Senate bill strongly.
- 2) **Rationing.** Call it “Comparative Effectiveness Research,” or a “Medicare Advisory board” or even call them “death panels” the Senate bill [creates](#) a Medicare Advisory Board required to make binding recommendations for cost savings within the Medicare program and requires this new board to do whatever is necessary to stop Medicare spending from growing to fast. The Board would also be able to redefine what a “qualified health plan” is and allow the Health and Human Services Secretary to force private health plans to adopt such rationing measures as well.
- 3) **The Federal Government Can’t Afford It.** Amazingly the fallacy that The Senate health care bill now in front of the House would reduce the deficit continues. This was disproved by the [Congressional Budget Office when it released a report](#) that the Democrats were double counting and in fact the Senate bill, as [the Examiner](#) first reported, would create a \$170 billion budget deficit.
- 4) **State Governments can’t afford it.** The Senate health care bill would require states to expand Medicaid eligibility anywhere from 133 percent to 150 percent above the federal poverty limit. By 2011 the federal government would look to the states to pick up the costs for this expansion. The [Congressional Budget Office estimates](#) this mandate to the states would drain state coffers by \$25 billion.
- 5) **People can’t afford it.** The President campaigned on saving the average American family about \$2,500 on health care premiums. The [CBO has recently said that the Senate health care bill](#) will actually raise the average family's health care premiums by \$2,300. The costs to families do not stop there. If you have a flexible spending account or health savings account then over the counter drugs, like antihistamines, Tylenol, Pedialyte or even prenatal vitamins all will be [subject to a tax increase of up to 40 percent if either bill passes](#). [Also under the Senate bill payroll taxes would impose an additional 0.5 percent payroll tax on married couples with more than \\$250,000 in wages and individuals with more than \\$200,000 in wages](#). That’s a huge marriage penalty. Two people cohabitating could make \$200k each before getting taxed. As a married couple you would get taxed at \$250,000. If all that isn’t enough – [also expect more taxes if you tan!](#)
- 6) **The bill does little to cut costs but in actuality increases spending.** Dean of the Harvard Medical School, Dr. Jeffrey Flier [has stated](#), “There are no provisions to substantively control the growth of costs or raise the quality of care. So the overall effort will fail to qualify as reform. . . In discussions with dozens of health care leaders and economists, I find near unanimity of opinion that, whatever its shape, the final legislation that will emerge from Congress will markedly accelerate national health care spending rather than restrain it.”
- 7) **People don’t want it.** Since December polls have consistently shown that the American people are opposed to the health care bill currently in Congress. [The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey](#) finds that 42% favor the plan while 53% are opposed.

- These figures include just 20% who Strongly Favor the plan and 41% who are Strongly Opposed. Additionally, a [recent poll by Susan B. Anthony List](#) in select Democrat's districts shows that a majority of people believe that "abortion and abortion funding have no place in healthcare legislation." The Senate bill represents an expansion of government funding of abortion.
- 8) **The process has made a mockery of the system.** [Reconciliation](#) and the "[Slaughter Rule](#)," are just some of the examples of how the Democrats are trying to twist any rule to get their legislation passed. From the very beginning President Obama and the rest of the Democratic leadership have behaved as if the rules meant for the rest of us were beneath them. From deals cut with the prescription drug industry to the drafting of at least 11 different versions of Obamacare just about everything has been done in backrooms, with occasional dog and pony shows such as hearings or summits that get broadcast on television but had little effect on the Democrats' plans.
 - 9) **Bribes and pay offs.** Most people already know all [the bribes to various Democratic Senators](#) to win their support for the health care overhaul that the House of Representatives is now going to vote on. "The Cornhusker Kickback," "The Louisiana Purchase" and "The Aloha Exemption" are just a few of the corrupt inducements that any Congressman who votes for the bill will now own. Additionally groups that spend hundreds of millions each election cycle to elect Democrats to Congress are getting their payday. [Planned Parenthood](#), [unions](#), the [homosexual lobby](#), [trial lawyers](#), [pro-suicide groups](#), [AARP](#), [various other liberal groups](#), the [American Medical Association](#) and the [prescription drug industry](#) are all set to gain if Obamacare passes.
 - 10) **The bills are likely unconstitutional.** A number of Constitutional scholars, [and the state of Virginia](#), are claiming that the bills violate the Constitution. Three such scholars; Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), Family Research Council Senior Fellow Ken Blackwell and Ken Klukowski of the American Civil Rights Union pointed this out in the [Wall Street Journal](#). The three scholars point out that first, the Constitution does not give Congress the power to require that Americans purchase health insurance. Secondly the Senate passed bill involves numerous deals Senator Reid cut to secure the votes of individual senators. This selective spending targeted at certain states runs afoul of the general welfare clause. Lastly, the legislation commands that states establish such things as benefit exchanges, which will require state legislation and regulations, rendering states little more than subdivisions of the federal government.
 - 11) **The bill pays for itself by cutting Medicare.** The Congressional Budget Office has found that the Senate bill would result in "reduce access to care or diminish the quality of care" of those in the Medicare Advantage plan. It is not just the attack on Medicare Advantage that has doctors worried. The dean of John Hopkins Medicine, Dr. Edward Miller, [writes in the Wall Street Journal](#), that the expansion of Medicaid under the Senate bill would bankrupt states and overwhelm the current health care system.
 - 12) **Our health care system deserves true reform, not further government control.** Yes, the federal government already controls a lot of the current health care system – however few would argue that Medicare, Medicaid or the health care provided to veterans are exemplary and deserve to be expanded as is, let alone further burdened by new bureaucracy. Affordability, portability, accessibility, transparency and conscience protections for both patients and for health care professionals are what we should be focusing on – not how much more power can we give to the federal government.