

Yankee Steve's Column

for the week of March 25, 2010

Dear reader, Just today I heard a reporter interviewing a woman about the health care bill that was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives on Sunday March 21, 2010, a day that Drudge said will “live in infirmity.” The reporter was a rather arrogant person. Needless to say I wish he had interviewed me. I am in the mood for a fight.

Now should the same thing happen to any one of us I would hope that we could just hand a liberal media member a written statement so that we would not sound like the Democrats who rely on double-talk.

I want the liberal left to understand where I stand; this bill is good for one thing only, kindling, and I want to tell the media that I have some very good reasons for believing as I do. The only reason this bill passed the House is apparent: America has fallen on bad times.

Elected representatives have moved us one step closer to becoming a totalitarian state. They want us to believe that their ambitious pursuits which has prompted them to seize control of the health care industry, is intended for our good. But is that the case? Listen to Publius [Alexander Hamilton] in the *Federalist Papers*:

. . . a dangerous ambition more often lurks behind the specious mask of zeal for the rights of the people, than under the forbidding appearance of zeal for the firmness and efficiency of government. History will teach us that the former has been found a much more certain road to the introduction of despotism, than the latter; and that of those men who have overturned the liberties of republics the greatest number have begun their career by paying an obsequious court to the people, commencing Demagogues, and ending Tyrants.

Dear reader, you have my permission to copy and distribute what I have written below provided you do not edit it.

Yankee Steve Cakouros

TO: All Americans

FROM: oldlineconservative.com Yankee Steve Cakouros

SUBJECT: Seven Points on Why the Bill Passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on Sunday March 21, 2010 Is Ruinous for America

1. The house bill mandates the buying of health insurance which is unconstitutional.

Thirty-seven states have enacted or are about to enact laws that would prevent this move toward totalitarianism.

2. Federal monies will be used for elective abortions.

Democrat Representative from Michigan Bart Stupak resisted this bill because the wording in it is abundantly clear. It circumvents the Hyde Amendment, which does not allow federal monies to be used for abortions. Stupak [or is it “stupid!”] has banked everything on a promise from President Barack Obama that the Hyde Amendment will remain in force. Apparently Obama is going to issue some kind of a *fatwa*. However, that does not change the way the bill has been worded. It allows for federally funded abortions. Read it for yourself online.

3. In order to pay the premiums of the uninsured the government will have to levy new taxes that will discourage investments and hurt job growth.

To pay for this legislation the Democrats went ahead and approved a brand new 3.8% tax on investment income for individuals earning more than \$200,000 and for couples earning more than \$250,000. It does not stop there. In 2018 those with high-end "Cadillac" health plans will be subjected to additional taxes on their benefits.

4. Numbers do not lie. The bill cannot be paid for; this bill may in fact bankrupt the federal government taking the states down with it.

Douglas Holtz-Eakin, director of the Congressional Budget Office [2003-05], and now president of the American Action Forum, has in an op-ed piece [3/20/2010] shown the way in which the Democrats have resorted to using "sleight of hand tactics" in order to deceive the American public. Permit me to quote one of the great number crunchers of America; when discussing the finalized bill, he says,

"... some costs are left out entirely" So what then? "The bottom line is that Congress" [must someday spend much more; steal funds from education, Social Security and long-term care to cover the gap; this must mean] "that future Congresses will [have to] make up for it by taxing more and spending less."

5. The government must now begin funding private insurers because the government option was seen for what it was, a communist takeover of health care, a.k.a. Kucinichism.

To pay for 32 million uninsured Americans the cost alone will be \$32 billion a year. The winner in all of this is the insurers and not the citizens who will now have to fund Obama-care through their taxes.

6. A two-tier system of health care will now emerge like the ones found in European countries and Canada where there has been a mass exit from the medical profession.

Doctors will begin to opt out of Medicare and Medicaid because of proposed cuts in payments made to doctors. That will mean that only those doctors who are at the bottom of the heap will take Medicare and Medicaid. Those who can afford the best insurers will get the best doctors and the best treatment. This is how it was in England when I lived there, and from what I can see nothing has changed. Dick Morris wrote, "The proposed \$400 billion cut in Medicare raises the probability that more and more of those doctors who do practice will refuse to accept Medicare patients, aggravating the doctor shortage among the elderly, the population that needs them the most."

7. This bill is based on the one thing which all Socialists agree on: economic equality is supposed to be the goal of our government.

Socialists are of the opinion that economic equality is just, laudable and even attainable. If the working middle-class has health insurance then everyone must have it. Therefore the real reason why the Democrats have pushed for this bill is not that they can cut the deficit, or reduce Medicare waste/fraud, or make government more efficient. The real reason is that they simply refuse to live in a world where there are "haves" and "have-nots."

President Lyndon B. Johnson, a Socialist if ever there was one, who got Medicare and Medicaid through Congress by hiding the facts regarding how much it would actually cost, spoke for Socialism when he made this promise, "We are going to take all the money we think is being unnecessarily spent, and take it from the haves and give it to the have-nots." [Human Events, Feb. 18, 1964, quoted in the *New York Daily News*] In other words, by hook or by crook, they will find a way to promote equalitarianism. Just a personal note: In those words I hear echoes of my father telling me that in communist Russia everyone is the same.