

The Association of Politically Active Christians

Three Admiral Street
Albany, New York 12205
www.apacny.net

POSITION PAPER ON HEALTH CARE REFORM

February 2010

Contact: Stephen P. Hayford (518-364-5324)

While it is clear that our nation's health care system is in need of change, not all change is positive. The health care reform proposals that have been advanced in Congress, and more recently by President Obama, are seriously flawed. APAC supports health care reform that respects the sanctity of human life, is fiscally responsible, provides appropriate limits on the power of federal government, promotes individual freedom, and enhances the quality of health care. Because APAC believes that President Obama's current health reform proposal fails to satisfy these criteria, APAC stands opposed to it. Therefore, APAC encourages Members of Congress to oppose the President's proposal.

APAC has the following specific concerns regarding the current health reform proposal:

- **The current proposal from President Obama soaks New York State.** The February 24, 2010 issue of the New York Post reported that President Obama's plan to tax investment income would result in an additional tax bill of \$4.8 per year for New Yorkers. New Yorkers are already some of the most highly taxed and regulated citizens in this country; the last thing we need is another tax hit.
- **Health reform must respect the sanctity of life.** Despite President Obama's assurances to the contrary, the facts reveal that the latest health reform proposal would allow government-sponsored insurance coverage for abortions and allow federal funding to be used for abortions. While President Obama has expressed the desire to reduce the number of abortions, his proposal would have the opposite effect: Federal funding for abortion would lead to a dramatic increase in the number of abortions. APAC is strongly opposed to any health reform proposal that promotes or funds abortion, and/or that erodes conscience protections for pro-life hospitals and health care providers.
- **Health reform must not result in health care rationing by the federal government.** If the President and his allies truly do not propose to use "comparative effectiveness research" for rationing purposes, why have they opposed attempts to place language in the health care legislation that would prohibit such rationing?
- **Health reform must be fiscally responsible.** A nation with a spiraling deficit simply cannot afford a health reform proposal that would cost an estimated \$1 trillion or more.
- **A big-government experiment that constrains individual freedom is not the answer.** APAC believes that the best solutions to the problems faced by our health care system are freedom solutions. These freedom solutions do not include a massive government takeover of our nation's health systems; rather, they involve meaningful tort reform, making health coverage portable, allowing people to purchase health insurance from states other than their states of residence, allowing health insurance premiums to be paid with Health Savings Accounts without a tax penalty, allowing high-deductible health insurance plans, and providing incentives for states to create alternatives to litigation regarding health insurance and health services.