

Ban on Abortion Coverage

NFPRHA Opposes H.R. 7: A Bill to Restrict Health Coverage for Abortion Services

NFPRA strongly opposes H.R. 7 the “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act” and anti-choice legislators’ attempt to limit insurance coverage of abortion services. This bill, sponsored by Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ), purports to prohibit “taxpayer funded abortions.”

What Does the Bill Do?

- Denies millions of women and families premium tax credits if they purchase a health insurance plan that covers abortion. The bill would force these women – particularly low- and moderate-income women – to forego a health insurance plan that includes abortion coverage in order to receive the premium assistance they need.
- Permanently bans federal health insurance programs such as Medicaid from including abortion coverage. H.R. 7 would codify harmful legislative riders that deny abortion coverage to women who receive health insurance through federal government programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, the Federal Employee Health Benefit (FEHB) program, and the Peace Corps.
- Raises taxes on small businesses by denying the Small Business Health Tax Credit to businesses that offer health insurance that covers abortion. This bill would penalize employers for choosing comprehensive coverage for their employees and their employees' families.
- Bans abortion coverage in all multi-state health insurance plans. H.R. 7 would replace current law requiring that at least one multi-state health insurance plan in a marketplace must not provide abortion (except for narrow exceptions). This would force all multi-state plans with existing coverage to drop abortion care.
- Alters the industry standard for abortion coverage, causing millions of women to lose existing coverage. The elimination of abortion coverage in the marketplaces is expected to set the industry standard, meaning that all plans, inside and outside of the marketplace, could drop such coverage
- Permanently denies the District of Columbia the ability to spend its local tax funds on abortion care in its Medicaid program – in direct contradiction to messages about the need to let states and localities make decisions that are best for them without undue federal interference.

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- H.R. 7 interferes with Americans’ private health care choices, and would have far-reaching consequences on public and private insurance plans and providers while targeting abortion care that millions of women need.
- H.R. 7 imposes a tax penalty on low- and middle-income families and small businesses, punishing women and families in order to prevent them from obtaining health insurance coverage for abortion services.
- H.R. 7 places women’s health at risk. Federal dollars are withheld from covering a woman's abortion, except in limited circumstances. This bill would further narrow these exceptions and impact a woman's ability to access needed health care.
- H.R. 7 is a dangerous and misleading bill that has one goal – eliminating abortion coverage in all of the insurance markets. If H.R. 7 were to become law, all women could either lose insurance coverage that includes abortion or be stigmatized while seeking such comprehensive insurance.