

## Health Care Reform: Votes on “Compromise” Amendment, Abortion Mandate, and Abortion Funding

### House Committee on Energy and Commerce, 111<sup>th</sup> Congress

On July 31, 2009, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce approved the America’s Affordable Health Choices Act (H.R. 3200). During markup, the Committee had three recorded votes and one voice vote that related to abortion. By voice vote the Committee approved an amendment by Rep. Bart Stupak (D-MI) that provided protection of conscience rights.

Vote 1: On July 30, Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA) offered a “compromise” amendment backed by committee chair, Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) that yielded some ground to pro-life concerns about mandated abortion coverage in private plans, preemption of state abortion laws, and retention of federal conscience laws. However, it weakened the application of the Hyde Amendment funding restrictions and had provisions to ensure that abortion is included in the public plan. *The Capps amendment passed by the narrow margin, 30-yes, 28-no.*

Vote 2: On July 30, Rep. Joseph Pitts (R-PA), with co-sponsors Reps. Stupak and Roy Blunt (R-MO), offered an amendment that excluded any mandate for abortion coverage, except to save the mother’s life and in cases of rape or incest. At first the Pitts amendment passed, 31-yes, 27-no. Rep. Waxman moved to reconsider the vote. *On the second vote, the Pitts Amendment failed, 29-yes, 30-no.*

Vote 3: Rep. Stupak, with co-sponsor Rep. Pitts, offered an amendment specifying that no funds authorized by the Act may be used to pay for any abortion or cover the costs of any health plan that includes coverage for abortion, except to save the mother’s life or in cases of rape or incest. *The Stupak amendment failed, 27-yes, 31-no.*

Key: X = Pro-life O = Pro-abortion nv = Not voting

**Democrats (Majority) – 36**

<b>Vote Numbers</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Henry A. Waxman, <i>Chair</i> , CA-30	O	O	O
John D. Dingell, MI-15	O	O	O
Edward J. Markey, MA-7	O	O	O
Rick Boucher, VA-9	O	O	O
Frank Pallone, Jr., NJ-6	O	O	O
Bart Gordon, TN-6	O	O	O
Bobby L. Rush, IL-1	O	O	O
Anna G. Eshoo, CA-14	O	O	O
Bart Stupak, MI-1	X	X	X
Eliot L. Engel, NY-17	O	O	O
Gene Green, TX-29	O	O	O
Diana DeGette, CO-1	O	O	O
Lois Capps, CA-23	O	O	O
Mike Doyle, PA-14	O	O	O
Jane Harman, CA-36	O	O	O
Jan Schakowsky, IL-9	O	O	O
Charles A. Gonzalez, TX-20	O	O	O
Jay Inslee, WA-1	O	O	O
Tammy Baldwin, WI-2	O	O	O
Mike Ross, AR-4	X	X	X
Anthony D. Weiner, NY-9	O	O	O
Jim Matheson, UT-2	X	X	X
G.K. Butterfield, NC-1	O	O	O
Charlie Melancon, LA-3	X	X	X
John Barrow, GA-12	X	X	X
Baron P. Hill, IN-9	X	X	nv
Doris O. Matsui, CA-5	O	O	O
Donna M. Christensen, VI-U	O	O	O
Kathy Castor, FL-11	O	O	O
John P. Sarbanes, MD-3	O	O	O
Christopher S. Murphy, CT-5	O	O	O
Zachary T. Space, OH-18	O	O	O
Jerry McNerney, CA-11	O	O	O
Betty Sutton, OH-13	O	O	O
Bruce L. Braley, IA-1	O	O	O
Peter Welch, VT-AL	O	O	O

**Republicans (Minority) - 23**

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Joe Barton, <i>Ranking Member</i> , TX-6	X	X	X
Ralph M. Hall, TX-4	X	X	X
Fred Upton, MI-6	X	X	X
Cliff Stearns, FL-6	X	X	X
Nathan Deal, GA-9	X	X	X
Ed Whitfield, KY-1	X	X	X
John Shimkus, IL-19	X	X	O <sup>1</sup>
John B. Shadegg, AZ-3	X	X	X
Roy Blunt, MO-7	X	X	X
Steve Buyer, IN-4	X	X	X
George Radanovich, CA-19	X	X	X
Joseph R. Pitts, PA-16	X	X	X
Mary Bono Mack, CA-45	X	X	X
Lee Terry, NE-2	X	X	X
Mike Rogers, MI-8	X	X	X
Sue Wilkins Myrick, NC-9	X	X	X
John Sullivan, OK-1	X	X	X
Tim Murphy, PA-18	nv	X	X
Michael C. Burgess, TX-26	X	X	X
Marsha Blackburn, TN-7	X	X	X
Phil Gingrey, GA-11	X	X	X
Steve Scalise, LA-1	X	X	X

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<sup>1</sup> Rep. Shimkus switched his pro-life "yes" vote to a "no" vote for the procedural reason of retaining the right to request a reconsideration of the vote at a later date.