



A NATIONWIDE PUBLIC INTEREST RELIGIOUS CIVIL LIBERTIES LAW FIRM

1055 Maitland Center Commons
 Second Floor
 Maitland, Florida 32751
 Tel: 800•671•1776
 Fax: 407•875•0770
 www.LC.org

1015 Fifteenth St. N.W.
 Suite 1100
 Washington, DC 20005
 Tel: 202•289•1776
 Fax: 202•216•9656

100 Mountain View Road
 Suite 2775
 Lynchburg, Virginia 24502
 Tel: 434•592•7000
 Fax: 434•592•7700
 liberty@LC.org

Government Healthcare Bill Comparison
Revised November 18, 2009

Several government healthcare bills have been proposed by various members of the 111th Congress. No bill has passed either the House or Senate but could come up for a vote at any time. We have identified at least 11 features that are common to most of the current bills, indicating that they are likely to be included in a final version. All Americans have the right and duty to become informed and have their voices heard about important bills that will affect the future health and stability of this Nation. This comparison is provided as an educational service of Liberty Counsel. Links to contact information for Congress are at the end of this summary.

	H.R. 3200: America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009	H.R. 3962: Affordable Health Care for America Act ("House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Bill")	S. 1796: America's Healthy Future Act of 2009 ("Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus's Bill")	S. 1679: Affordable Health Choices Act	Proposed as an Amendment to H.R. 3590: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's Bill")
<i>Where can we read the Bill text?</i>	Click here for link to text of HR 3200	Click here for link to text of HR 3962	Click here for link to text of S. 1796	Click here for link to text of S. 1679	Click here for link to text of S. 3590

	H.R. 3200: America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009	H.R. 3962: Affordable Health Care for America Act ("House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Bill")	S. 1796: America's Healthy Future Act of 2009 ("Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus's Bill")	S. 1679: Affordable Health Choices Act	Proposed as an Amendment to H.R. 3590: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's Bill")
<i>Does the Bill allow for government funding of abortion?</i>	Yes. Section 1713 (Amendments to prevent abortion funding were introduced but defeated.)	Yes. Section 222(E)(4)(B)	Yes. Section 2245	Yes. Section 3101 prevents discrimination on the basis of provision of abortions. Abortions will be covered like any other procedure not specifically listed.	Yes. Section 1303
<i>Does the Bill mandate end-of-life counseling?</i>	Yes. Section 1233	Yes. Section 240	No. Section 1921	No. However, Section 189B provides that the government may not discriminate against those refusing to assist in a patient's suicide, implying assisted suicide may not be prohibited.	No mandatory counseling. However, Section 3205(e) regarding advice and assistance counseling, and Section 1553(c)(4) regarding the providers of assisted suicide, leave the door open for the practice of euthanasia.

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<i>Does the Bill decrease or limit Medicare funding?</i>	Yes. Section 1162	Yes. Section 9511(C)(2)	S. 1776 and S.1679 address Medicare separately from S.1796 to keep the Congressional Budget Office from reporting an exorbitant increase in the deficit as a result of S.1796 alone.	Perhaps. Section 3106 anticipates the need for a Medicare funding warning in the instance Medicare lacks adequate funding.	Yes. Section 2702(c)
<i>Does the Bill provide government-funded insurance for illegal immigrants?</i>	Illegal immigrants are not explicitly restricted from participating in the exchange.	No. Section 347 forbids federal payments for undocumented aliens but no requirement of proof of eligibility.	Not directly, but Section 2238 only requires "attestation" of lawful residence, leaving openings for fraud.	No. Section 3111 forbids federal payment for undocumented aliens but no requirement of proof of eligibility.	Illegal immigrants are not explicitly restricted from participating in the exchange.
<i>Does the Bill call for rationing of care?</i>	Yes. Sections 1162 and 1233	Yes. Section 203(B)	Yes. Section 3001	Yes. Sections 212, 303, and 399S	Yes. Section 3502(c)(6)(D)
<i>Does the Bill require mandatory participation?</i>	Yes. Section 207	Yes. Section 501	Yes. Section 5000A	Yes. Sections 161 and Section 59B	Yes. Sections 1501 and 5000A

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<i>Does the Bill include penalties for those uninsured?</i>	Yes. Subpart A, Section 59B (Penalties do not apply to nonresident aliens.)	Yes. Subpart A, Section 59B (Penalties do not apply to nonresident aliens.)	Yes. Section 5000A(b)	Yes. Section 59B(b)(2) and 3203(D)	Yes. Section 1501 and 5000A Also, Section 9015 increases taxes on all individuals earning more than \$200,000 and all households earning more than \$250,000 per year.
<i>Does the Bill require employers to pay taxes or fees?</i>	Yes. Sections 312 and 313	Yes. Section 4980H(b)	Yes. Section 4980H	Yes. Section 3115	Yes. Sections 1513, 4980H, 9001, and 4980I
<i>Does the Bill call for national healthcare identification cards?</i>	Yes. Section 1173A	Yes. Section 1173A	Yes. Section 3601	Yes. Section 222	Yes. Section 1104(g)(4)(B)(i)
<i>Does the Bill include a "public option" or an exchange?</i>	Yes. Title I, Subtitle B	Yes. Title III, Subtitle B	Yes. Section 1101	Yes. Sections 302, 3106, and 3203	Yes. Section 1323

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<i>Does the Bill impose fees/taxes on private health insurance providers?</i>	Yes. Section 4375	Yes. Section 4377, Chapter 34	Yes. Section 6010	No. However, Section 3107 implies that the government may apply fees to private health insurance providers that are not applied to the “community health insurance option.”	No. However, Section 1324 implies that the government may apply fees to private health insurance providers.

[Contact Information for Your Senator](#) is available at Senate.gov.

[Contact Information for Your Representative](#) is available at House.gov.