



# Abortion Funding Showdown

## *Health Care Reform vote imminent*

Action by U.S. Knights needed now

**State Deputies: Please give this your immediate attention**

Monday, March 8, 2010

Worthy State Deputy:

The debate on health care legislation has now reached its final and most critical stage, with final votes expected in Congress within the next two weeks.

The legislation is being fast-tracked through Congress using a rare parliamentary maneuver known as "reconciliation." This procedure will push the bill through Congress over the objections of a bipartisan group of lawmakers in the House of Representatives that wants to remove abortion funding from the bill.

Very soon the House will be asked vote on a Senate bill containing provisions that would overturn the thirty-year federal policy against tax-dollar funding of abortion. If the Senate bill is approved by the House, it goes immediately to the President's desk and will be enacted into law. A second "reconciliation" bill will then be voted on by both houses to make changes to the new law. These changes will not amend the abortion mandates enacted through the Senate bill.

The American Catholic bishops oppose the Senate bill, calling it "deficient" because it contains multiple pro-abortion provisions and federal subsidies for abortion. It allows for federal dollars to flow to abortion providers in community health centers; it allows for federal subsidies for overall health plans that cover abortion. Lastly, it provides no conscience protection for those who refuse to participate in abortion.

A bipartisan group of lawmakers, including brother Knight Congressman Bart Stupak (D-MI), is working to ensure that health care legislation contains language that would ban abortion funding. They need the support of brother Knights from across the United States.

I urge you to encourage every Knight in your state to contact their representatives in Congress. Ask them to go to the Knights of Columbus homepage at [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) for instructions on contacting Congress.

Your immediate action is critical. If the Senate bill becomes law, it will be the largest expansion of abortion in our country since *Roe v. Wade*.

Fraternally,  
Carl A. Anderson  
Supreme Knight