

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
1 COLUMBUS PLAZA  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06510-3326

TO: U.S. State Deputies  
FROM: Supreme Knight  
DATE: January 21, 2010  
RE: URGENT ACTION NEEDED — Health Care Reform



With Congress now back in session, I am writing to ask you to encourage Knights in your jurisdiction to continue to contact their Representative and Senators about the health care reform legislation. The Senate version of the bill currently under consideration by a joint House and Senate conference committee fails to maintain the long-standing policy against the federal funding of abortion and does not protect the conscience rights of those who refuse to participate in abortion. The U.S. bishops have called this bill "deficient" and have said that it should be opposed.

Thanks to the special efforts of brother Knight Congressman Bart Stupak and a broad bi-partisan coalition of representatives, the House version of the bill maintains the policy against the federal funding of abortion.

It is not yet clear how the result in the special Senate election held in Massachusetts on Tuesday will impact health care reform legislation, but one course of action being considered is for the House to simply pass the Senate version.

Time is of the essence because the negotiations on health care reform are happening now. It is crucial that every member of the House and Senate hear from us immediately so that the final bill will not mandate federal funding of abortion and will adequately protect conscience rights.

Please direct members to [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) which provides a quick and effective mechanism to contact Congress. We must prevent health care reform from becoming the largest expansion of abortion in our country since *Roe v. Wade*.

cc. Board of Directors