

# Sen. Reid's Health Care Bill

## Six Major Problems

**ABORTION COVERAGE:** "...the Reid language is not the Stupak/Pitts language [that was added to H.R. 3962]. It is the opposite of Stupak/Pitts. While Stupak/Pitts would have ensured that elective abortion was kept out of the public plan (called the Community Health Insurance Option in the Senate bill), the Reid/Capps language explicitly authorizes the Secretary to include abortion in the public option. While Stupak/Pitts would prohibit government subsidies (refundable, advanceable tax credits in the Senate bill) from contributing to insurance policies that include elective abortion, the Reid/Capps language permits government subsidies for plans that pay for abortion" (Family Research Council).

**GOVERNMENT-RUN HEALTH INSURANCE:** The Senate's health care bill "Includes a government-run public health insurance option" (CNN). The public option in this bill is called the Community Health Insurance Option.

**AN INDIVIDUAL & EMPLOYER MANDATE:** The Senate's health care bill "Requires individuals to buy health insurance, with a fine for noncompliance of \$95 in the first year that would escalate to \$750 by 2016" (CNN). Also, the bill will impose \$28 billion in new taxes on employers that do not provide government approved health plans. These new taxes will ultimately be paid by American workers in the form of reduced wages and lost jobs.

**MEDICARE CUTS & HIGHER TAXES:** The bill would cut \$464.6 billion from Medicare. In addition, the bill will impose new taxes on: "Wages, medical devices, prescription drugs, sick people, health insurance premiums (twice), Health Savings Accounts, Flexible Spending Accounts, Health Reimbursement Arrangements, and cosmetic surgery" (The Cato Institute). Overall, taxes will go up \$493.6 billion.

**TRUE COST IS OVER \$2 TRILLION:** While the Congressional Budget Office has scored the bill at \$849 billion, it will probably cost close to \$2.5 trillion over a 10 year period. That means about \$1.5 trillion is being hidden, with most of this runaway spending coming out in a "\$25 billion unfunded mandate that Sen. Reid would impose on states," and "the legal requirements that individuals and employers purchase health insurance" (The Cato Institute). These private-sector mandates are the biggest hidden cost of the Senate's health care bill.

**2,074 PAGES OF BUREAUCRACY:** You heard right. The bill is 2,074 pages.

