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Obama Continues to Violate Hyde; New Website Helps Healthcare Consumers Avoid Pro-Abortion Plans

November 20, 2014

Opening remarks

U.S. Rep. Chris Smith (NJ-04)

On September 9, 2009 President Obama told lawmakers and the American public in a specially called joint session of Congress on healthcare reform that “under our plan, no federal dollars will be used to fund abortion.”

In an 11th hour ploy to garner a remnant of pro-life congressional Democrats absolutely needed for passage of Obamacare (the Affordable Care Act), the President issued an executive order on March 24, 2010 that said: “the Act maintains current Hyde Amendment restrictions governing abortion policy and extends those restrictions to newly created health insurance exchanges.”

Turns out that those ironclad promises made by the President himself are absolutely untrue, and ranks right up there with President Obama’s oft stated deception that if you like your health insurance plan you can keep it, dubbed Politifact’s 2013 “lie of the year.”

At its core, the Hyde Amendment has two indisputable parts. It prohibits funding for abortion and funding for any insurance plan that includes abortion except in the case of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother. Obamacare violates Hyde by funding insurance plans that pay for abortion on demand.

Despite an appalling degree of non-transparency and obfuscation by the Administration, an extensive audit by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found in September that 1,036 Obamacare exchange plans covered elective abortion. GAO also found that separate billing of the abortion surcharge – required by the Act – is not being enforced and the abortion-funding premium is again in 2015 being illegally rolled into the total plan cost. Health care

consumers are therefore buying health insurance with little or no knowledge that they are purchasing abortion subsidizing plans.

When it comes to public funding for abortion, the new 2015 Open Enrollment is at least as bad – and probably worse, than last year.

Again President Obama's solemn promise not fund abortion on demand continues to be broken with impunity. And once again health consumers are almost clueless as to which plans fund abortion on demand and which do not.

That's why obamacareabortion.com is an extraordinarily useful new tool for healthcare consumers, created by Family Research Council and the Charlotte Lozier Institute. The Obama Administration's cover-up of abortion insurance plans on the exchange is unnecessary, unacceptable and absolutely unconscionable. Consumers have a right to know. Abortion is not healthcare – it dismembers and chemically poisons defenseless unborn children and hurts women.

Last January, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 7 – the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act – which would end public funding for abortion in 2015 while alerting health consumers to which 2014 plans funded abortion on demand. Obama promised a veto. The Senate failed to even vote on the measure.