

Dear Representative:

The undersigned organizations strongly urge you to oppose the deceptive “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act” (H.R. 7), a bill designed to fundamentally alter the health insurance market – from a market where abortion coverage is the industry standard to one where abortion coverage is eliminated. H.R. 7 does this by changing the laws that govern both private and public insurance and by twisting the tax code into a tool to take away abortion coverage from women who have it. This bill would not only raise taxes for many women and businesses, but it could also require “rape audits” in which women have to prove to the IRS that they were raped. Ultimately, this bill is designed to deny women the decision whether or not to have an abortion by taking away their insurance coverage.

**H.R. 7 twists the tax code into a tool to take away health insurance coverage that women have today.** For example, the bill would deny millions of women and families premium assistance tax credits if they purchase a health insurance plan that covers abortion. The bill would force these women to forego a health insurance plan that includes abortion in order to get the premium assistance they need.

H.R. 7 would also raise taxes on small businesses by denying the Small Business Health Tax Credit to businesses that offer health insurance that covers abortion. This credit was created to encourage small businesses to offer health insurance to their employees by making it more affordable. This bill would penalize employers for choosing comprehensive coverage for their employees and their families.

**H.R. 7 also has severe consequences for women who experience sexual violence.** Incredibly, a rape or incest survivor seeking to include the cost of an abortion in her medical expense deductions or to use tax-advantaged savings to pay for the service may have to provide evidence of the rape or incest if audited by the IRS. Such “rape audits” are a level of government intrusiveness into an individual’s private and personal life that is not only unacceptable, but is highly inappropriate.

**Finally, H.R. 7 would endanger women’s health by eliminating abortion coverage in both the private and public insurance markets.** This is particularly true for women underserved by the health care system and women with health problems, even in circumstances where a woman needs an abortion to prevent severe, permanent damage to her health. Because H.R. 7 provides no health exception, it would leave women whose health is seriously threatened by their pregnancies without access to the care their doctors recommend to protect their health.

The legislation would also codify harmful legislative riders that deny women access to public coverage for abortion. These riders include those that deny the District of Columbia the ability to decide whether to use its own local funds to provide abortion coverage and the restriction that bans Medicaid from including abortion coverage, both of which disproportionately affect women of color and low-income women.

**In summary, H.R. 7 would deny millions of women the ability to make their own decision about whether to have an abortion by eliminating private and public insurance coverage for it.** H.R. 7 is a dangerous bill that jeopardizes women's health by directly banning abortion coverage, by raising taxes on families and small businesses that purchase comprehensive insurance coverage, and by putting women who have survived sexual violence through intrusive tax audits. We strongly urge you to reject this bill.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Youth  
American Association of University Women (AAUW)  
American Civil Liberties Union  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
Catholics for Choice  
Center for Reproductive Rights  
Choice USA  
Jewish Women International  
Methodist Federation for Social Action  
NARAL Pro-Choice America  
National Abortion Federation  
National Center for Lesbian Rights  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health  
National Organization for Women  
National Partnership for Women & Families  
National Women's Law Center  
Physicians for Reproductive Health  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Population Institute  
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice  
Reproductive Health Technologies Project  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries