

*"I came so that  
they might  
have life and  
have it more  
abundantly."*

*John 10:10*

# ADVOCACY ALERT

**March 15, 2010**



**DIOCESE OF  
AUSTIN**  
The Catholic  
Church of  
Central Texas

**OFFICE OF  
PRO-LIFE  
ACTIVITIES  
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## **URGENT ALERT FROM THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR A HUMAN LIFE AMENDMENT *Stop Abortion Funding in Health Care Reform!***

Congress again is preparing to vote on health care reform. At this stage, it is difficult to predict how votes might unfold. It is very important that the language in the House-passed bill preventing abortion funding — the Stupak-Pitts Amendment — be incorporated in its essential features as a part of any final bill.

What has happened up to this point in the health care reform debate? The U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate have passed different bills. On the question of preventing abortion funding, the House language is good, the Senate language is unacceptable. Outside the abortion context, neither bill has adequate conscience protection for health care providers, plans or employers.

What's next? The two chambers need to agree on a final bill. It is not clear how this will be achieved. There is discussion of using a reconciliation bill, a budget measure that in the Senate cannot be filibustered and needs only 51 votes to pass. Analyses of the House and Senate-passed bills can be found on our website at: [www.nchla.org/issues.asp?ID=51](http://www.nchla.org/issues.asp?ID=51).

### **Your action is urgently needed!**

Even if you have already contacted your U.S. Representative and Senators regarding health care reform, please contact them again today.

- To send a pre-written, instant e-mail to your U.S. Representative and both Texas' Senators as well as Congressional leaders, go to [www.usccb.org/action](http://www.usccb.org/action). You can add additional comments to the e-mail, if you would like to do so.
- Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at: 202-224-3121. Contact information for local offices can be found at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) and [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).

If you choose not to send the pre-written e-mail that is referenced above, you are still encouraged to access that link for sample messages to both the House and the Senate.

***For more information on Pro-Life Legislative Advocacy  
go to: [www.myprolife.org](http://www.myprolife.org)  
or call: (512) 949-2486***