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Driving the Conversation:

Be the strategist: On health care, what candid advice would you now offer your own side to advance the cause during the recess?

Michelle Malkin live chat at noon

August 7 2009

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Roger Pilon, Vice President for Legal Affairs, Cato Institute:

I would advise those who understand that Obamacare is a Trojan Horse for single payer, government run health care – Barney Frank, a week ago, let the cat out of the bag on that – to **keep the pressure on, because the momentum is on our side**. That was brought out just this morning in a **wide-ranging poll** by Scott Rasmussen in the Wall Street

Journal.

To cite just two of the poll's findings, 68 percent of American voters have health-insurance coverage that they rate good or excellent, and they're rightly wary about losing more than they'll gain. What is still worse for Obama's health care agenda is that, among independents, 60 percent oppose it while only 35 percent support it – 47 percent strongly oppose, just 16 percent strongly favor.

Administration supporters can scream all they want about “tea-party/birther/pitchfork” brigades – reminiscent of Obama's San Francisco remarks about people clinging to their religion and guns – but those numbers point to widespread and growing opposition to the administration's agenda, not only in healthcare but in so much else. As I wrote previously in this space, there are huge problems with our current healthcare arrangements, but further socializing the delivery of health care is not the answer. To the contrary, as in so much else, the socialization of what is, in the end, a private good, is at the root of our present problems.

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