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[Historic PelosiCare Debate Starts Right Now](#)

by [Brian Darling](#)

Today, a historic debate will commence on a bill that would impose big government health care on all Americans. Nobody knows if this bill is going to pass and many questions about the bill remain unanswered. All those who cherish the idea of limited government and a health care system driven by free market principles are hoping that good prevails over evil.

Yesterday, the [House Rules Committee](#) passed the rule to consider [H.R. 3962](#) (PelosiCare), the Affordable Health Care for America Act, and this debate will be covered live on [C-SPAN](#) all day long. Today, the American people can watch the debate in the House of Representatives on legislation that would dramatically change the way health care services are delivered.



AP / Steven Senne, File

Who is the Next Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky?

The vote on final passage of the bill is going to be close and people looking to the 2010 congressional election cycle are going to watch this vote to see which [Blue Dog Democrats](#), Democrats from conservative leaning districts, are going to be forced to [Walk the Plank](#) and vote for an unpopular bill. [Dan Perrin of Red State](#) has an excellent review of what happened to one term former Congresswoman Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky of Pennsylvania. Perrin wrote "we are reminded of the case of Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky (D-PA) who famously switched her vote to give then President Clinton his tax increase." She lost her re-election the next year and became the poster child for the 1994 Republican sweep of Congress.

It is possible that a handful of Congressman from a conservative leaning district are considered the deciding votes to pass PelosiCare and that may cause them problems going into an election cycle that, if the Governor's elections in NJ and VA are any indication, may be an uphill climb for many Democrats.

Mandates

The PelosiCare bill is very long and complicated. [Congressional Quarterly](#) (subscription required) reports that the bill's coverage requirements include an individuals mandate requiring "nearly all individuals to obtain health care coverage, beginning in 2013." Also, an employer mandate requiring "employers to offer their employees health care insurance, or make an insurance contribution on their behalf, starting in 2013." A federal health insurance exchange will be created and being operation in 2013 "that would allow individuals and small businesses to purchase health insurance from insurers participating in the exchange." Many conservatives, [and libertarians like Michael Cannon at CATO](#), object to the mandates, because they feel that mandating health insurance is a means to a government takeover of health care.

Public Option

The controversial public option is part of PelosiCare and "requires the establishment of a public health insurance option within the insurance exchange by 2013." The federal government would "run the public option and negotiate with providers to determine rates." [The Heritage Foundation](#) argues that the problems with a public option are that the "costs are hidden," public provided health care offers "substandard care compared to private health insurance," the government be unfairly setting up rules for competition between the government and private health insurance providers, and that "as many as 119 million Americans would no longer be in private coverage."

The end goal of the public option for the left is a "the end goal is definitely a single-payer system. That's why many supporters of a single-payer system, where the government runs the whole health system, are suddenly converts to choice and private competition as long as there is a public plan." Don't believe me and The Heritage Foundation? Just listen to [Rep Jan Schakowsky \(D-IL\)](#). Also, PelosiCare prevents insurance companies from denying or lowering coverage because of an individuals pre-existing condition starting in 2013.

Taxes

Taxes would be raised under PelosiCare. The bill imposes a 5.4 percent tax surcharge on individuals earning \$500,000 or \$1 million for married couples. This is scored by the Congressional Budget Office as a \$461 billion in revenues to pay for the bill. There is a controversial 2.5% surcharge on medical devices that will be passed on to you, the consumer. Health Savings Accounts HSAs are under attack with discriminatory tax provisions intended on legislating HSAs out of existence. [Ryan Ellis of Americans for Tax Reform](#) has compiled a comprehensive list of all the tax increases in PelosiCare.

Cost

The Heritage Foundation estimates the cost of this bill, over the next 10 years, to be [\\$1.5 trillion](#). The President promised that ObamaCare would not cost the American people more than \$900 billion, yet the bill being considered in the House breaks yet another Obama promise. If you take the CBO price tag and add the so called Doc Fix bill, which changes the way doctors are reimbursed for Medicare payments and has been part of the Obamacare debate from the start, that adds another \$245 billion over the next 10 years.

[Donald Marron](#), former CBO director, estimated that there are \$217 billion in additional spending ignored by CBO. Even if the bill cost under the arbitrary \$900 billion limit requested by the President, that seems to be a \$900 billion expansion of the federal government that we, as a nation, don't need right now.

[The Congressional Budget Office](#) (CBO) scored this bill as a net savings of \$129 billion over the next 10 years. Only in Washington, D.C. could a bill that expands government, raises taxes, creates numerous new federal programs and costs over one trillion dollars be considered legislation that saves taxpayer's monies. Even if you accept the CBO's numbers as true, you have some shocking numbers. There are \$427 billion in promised cuts to programs and we are not clear who will be impacted by these massive cuts to programs that many are relying on for health care services. There are \$594 in additional revenues, this means taxes and these monies will be coming out of other productive sectors of the economy.

Abortion

The abortion issue has become the most serious stumbling block for Pelosicare. Congressman Bart Stupak (D-MI), co-chairman of the House Pro-Life caucus has warned leaders that up to 40 democrats might vote against PelosiCare unless if stronger language is not added to the bill to prevent federal funding of insurance plans that cover abortion services. If these Pro-Life Democrats follow through with that threat, the bill will not pass.

Stupak has an Amendment that he wants to offer that would prevent insurance plans from getting federal monies to cover abortions. Supporters of PelosiCare argue that the bill does not require insurance plans to cover abortions, yet the plan would empower the Obama Administration to decide whether the government run public option would cover elective abortions. Is there any question that bureaucrats in the Obama Administration would support government funded abortions?

Congressman Brad Ellsworth (D-IN) has offered an amendment that no federal funding would be allowed for abortion services and all Americans would have access to at least one plan that does not cover abortions. The [U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) and the [National Right to Life](#) don't think this is enough, but it will be interesting to see how the Democrats in the House Pro-Life Caucus vote on PelosiCare with the Ellsworth language added to the bill. Abortion could be the issue that takes down comprehensive health care reform in the end.

Immigration

The President promised that illegal immigrants would not be covered by the health care reform proposal. [Joe Wilson \(R-SC\) disagreed](#). The immigration issue seems to be unresolved and an issue that will be hotly debated today.

The bottom line is that this debate will be played out over this important weekend in the fight against big government. Feel free to use this as an open thread during the debate and remember to watch these elite politicians as they attempt to seize control of private health care, raise your taxes and spend over a trillion of your dollars.



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[alphapig](#) 48p · 2 days ago

+3

To quote Mark Twain, "Nobody's rights are safe while congress is in session".

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[Cowboy Logic](#) 100p · 2 days ago

+2

Today, the future of our Republic hangs by a thread.

Will we take the final step into Socialism, or continue to remain a free Republic, a free people, a Nation of free men? Today, is the culmination of years of Progressive steps that have brought US to the brink of the abyss. One can only pray that those casting their votes, feel the full impact, the full importance of their vote today, as this will be a Nation changing event.

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[TheRightSide](#) 76p · 2 days ago

+2

We are all watching very carefully and with great resolve...

Reply [3 replies](#) · active 1 day ago

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[pattiamn](#) 78p · 2 days ago

+1

may our fervent prayers of destroying this bill heard and granted. may god be with us...

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[HarryTuttle](#) 39p · 2 days ago

+4

Call them. Email them. Encourage friends and neighbors to call them. They pretend to ignore you but at some level they do not.

If they had the votes this would have happened already, do not let up the pressure.

Reply [2 replies](#) · active 2 days ago

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[FordPrefect1969](#) 46p · 2 days ago

+3

Lieberman already promised to filibuster anything with a public option, so it would almost be better if they did pass it through the house because it'll make the 2010 bloodbath even worse.

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[debcal](#) 67p · 2 days ago

+1

They should be forced to read the bill on the floor prior to a vote - with the entirety broadcast on CSPAN.

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[MikeInIdaho](#) 86p · 2 days ago

+1

God help us all today. Pelosi, Reid and Obama are bound a determined to turn us into a third world dictatorship. And Obama will be only to happy to be our "Dear Leader", even though he is nothing but a puppet!

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[Cowboy Logic](#) 100p · 2 days ago

+2

This is revolting.

The Democrats on TV, lined up at the podium, commencing this nonsense looks like the Great American Freak Show. Something straight from the pages of Walt Disney, or a Looney Tunes Cartoon. THIS, is what WE have degenerated into? This, once the Greatest Nation the World has ever seen, hijacked by the Barney Franks, Nancy Pelosi's and Maxine Waters' of the gene pool? That pool needs some Chlorox to clean up the waters.

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[ElvisP](#) · 2 days ago

0

TURN ON C-SPAN NOW !!!! THIS IS GREAT BUT CRAPPY AT THE SAME TIME !!!!! TURN IT ON!!!!

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 ElvisP · 2 days ago 0

This morning, the U.S. House convenes to debate its health care legislation. Members will have four hours to debate the Democratic bill (H.R. 3962) and an hour for the GOP bill

WWW.C-SPAN.ORG OR ON CABLE - DIRECTV IS 350 !!!!

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 ElvisP · 2 days ago +1

fight fight fight !!!!!!!

The right is trying but the left is moving on ... this is great - I think the old guy with the gavel is going to have a heart attack !!!!

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 ElvisP · 2 days ago +2

"In God We Trust" above his head

Now they are talking about minorities NOT being covered !!! WTH !!!!

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 Professor Turgeson · 2 days ago 0

Oy! If she raises my taxes, I won't be able to afford to go to her restaurant in the Napa Valley at the "Oh Bears O Soul Yay" resort, or is it Auberge au Soleil? I can never remember that one. Nan or her main squeeze owns it. It's a cinch that a clueless taxer from the People's Republic of San Francisco who runs the House would be the owner of a Frenchy Restaurant in the Napa Valley - talk about being totally out of touch with the common clay!

"Paul Pelosi's holdings include a four-story commercial building on Belden Place in San Francisco, a retail and office building on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in San Anselmo and an ownership stake in the Auberge du Soleil resort in Napa Valley valued at \$1 million to \$5 million. He also has millions of dollars of shares in publicly traded companies such as Microsoft, Amazon. com and AT&T." Much more about the limo-libs from Beijing East: <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/news/1809673/po...>

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 ElvisP · 2 days ago +1

half the women can't afford healthcare because the LEFT teaches them to have sex... to tell them you don,t need to be married, you give them condoms, you give them WIC... I can go on and on ... These Dems are crazy !!!!

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 Cowboy Logic 100p · 2 days ago +1

Good gawd amighty, these minority buffons trying to speak, cannot even speak English.

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 art1980 42p · 2 days ago +2

Is there any way to take away Pelosi's power? She seems mentally unstable to me. Political Barbie past a prime she never had. (I really do dislike her. She gives me the creeps.)

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 ElvisP · 2 days ago 0

Come on Republicans !!!! Stand up !!! Keep objecting !!!! Keep objecting Do you see when he keeps asking for unanimous consent the left keep crying - "woe is me"

Because babies from single moms who got banged by a man who never cared about the kid..... - speak the truth lefties !!!!!

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 ElvisP · 2 days ago +1

Wow - now not enough latinos covered !!!! Geez what happened to Americians !!!!

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 ElvisP · 2 days ago +1

They are trying to get all this in the record !!!!! Twitter any Republican you know to stand up and FIGHT !!!!!

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ElvisP · 2 days ago

+1

Go Michelle !!!! See you out front at 1PM !!!!!

Reply

[Report](#)



Jason 75p · 2 days ago

+1

Ok everyone, the Don't Tread on Me petition is back.

http://myfreepress.net/petitions/dont_tread_on_me...

If you already signed thank you for the support.

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[ObamaCare/PelosiCare Takeover Has Begun... « Frugal Café Blog Zone](#)

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moment...unfortunately one of sooooo many
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