

## The Reconciliation Ruse: Democratic leadership sacrificing members on alter of ObamaCare

Fri, 03/05/2010 - 1:20pm | posted by Jason Pye

Passing ObamaCare through reconciliation may not be as easy as it sounds. If you caught our podcast with Michael Cannon, Director of Health Policy Studies at the Cato Institute, you'll recall that he said that some House Democrats may be reluctant to vote for health care reform due to disagree over certain tax provisions and abortion language, based on a promise that a fix will be pushed through the Senate via reconciliation.

Cannon said:

*So the problem though that the Democratic leadership is facing is that there is a lot that can go wrong in that reconciliation process. For example, you're not supposed to be able to make policy changes through the reconciliation process like the changes to the abortion language in the Senate bill that pro-life that pro-life House Democrats would like to see and so anything that goes wrong in the reconciliation process will scuttle those changes those changes that House Democrats want to see. Any changes that the leadership is promising House Democrats is that after the send the health care bill to the president to become law the House will pass the reconciliation package, the Senate will pass the identical passage and therefore all the House Democrats' concerns will be met. But if Senate Democrats renege on that commitment then the House Democrats don't get the changes they want. And why should the Senate Democrats follow through, the bill that they want to become law is already law.*

*At the same time House Republicans will do whatever they can to stop those changes from going through reconciliation because those changes will make the health care bill that has already become law even more expensive. So, you're gonna have huge incentives for both Senate Democrats and Senate Republicans to mess with the reconciliation process to not give House Democrats the changes they want and House Democrats know that.*

Other pundits are starting to pick up on this now, such as Rich Lowry and Jeffery Anderson at the National Review. This is an important point that I'm glad Cannon pointed out and is getting some attention by pundits.

Over at Hot Air, Allahpundit notes that the distrust that House Democrats have for Senate Democrats is real. You certainly can't put it past Reid, and Pelosi practically told her own caucus to sacrifice themselves politically for passage of ObamaCare.

With all this said, have you called your representative and asked them to vote against ObamaCare? You can find your representative by visting this page and entering your zip code. You can also target Blue Dog Democrats by using the information on this spreadsheet.

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