

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Steve King, a member of the Pro-Life Caucus, made the following statement regarding abortion funding in the health care reform bill being pushed by liberals in Congress.

“Health care is about protecting life, not taking it. The health care bill put forward by liberals in this Congress will force pro-life Americans to pay for abortions in violation of their deeply held religious convictions. We know from past experience that unless abortion funding is expressly prohibited, it will be mandated and subsidized. Nowhere in this bill is taxpayer funding for abortion prohibited.

“This bill will also penalize Americans enrolled in health insurance plans that do not provide abortions. Bureaucrats will define ‘minimum benefit standards’ to require coverage of abortion, and any employer who offers a plan that does not cover abortion will face up to 8% in tax penalties. Individuals who choose not to purchase a plan that covers abortion will be forced to pay a 2.5% tax penalty.

“Americans should be free to have a health care plan that does not pay for abortions and should have the right to refuse to pay for abortions with their hard-earned tax dollars.”