With Rep. Peter Welch's support, the U.S. House on November 7 passed historic legislation that will pro

The landmark legislation will extend access to 36 million people, covering 96 percent of Americans. It wi

"Tonight we took a momentous step forward in our century-long quest to provide health security and sta

"Tonight's vote signifies not the final step in our nation's effort to guarantee quality health coverage to al

- Rep. Peter Welch, November 7, 2009

Affordable Health Care for America Act Resources:

- Full Bill Text
- Summary
- Section-by-section analysis

What Health Care Reform Means For Vermonters

- For Small Businesses
- For Rural Communities
- For Seniors
- For Young People

Provisions Sponsored and Advocated By Rep. Welch:

- Public Health Insurance Option – Welch-supported provision creates a voluntary, public health insurance option to compete with private insurers, adding choice and reducing costs.

- Prescription Drug Price Negotiation for Seniors – Welch amendment requires the federal government to negotiate Medicare Part D drug prices directly with pharmaceutical companies, cutting prescription drug costs for seniors.
- Extended Coverage for Young People – Welch-supported amendment allows young people through the age of 26 to remain on their parents' health plans.
- Repeal of Anti-Trust Exemption for Insurance Companies – Welch-supported amendment ends the insurance industry's exemption from anti-trust laws, eliminating price fixing and market allocation.

- Preservation of Vermont's Medicaid Waiver – Welch amendment allows Vermont's Medicaid waiver to continue under new system.
- Promotion of Accountable Care Organizations – Welch provision based on research by the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy creates ACOs, which reward the quality and efficiency of care, rather than the volume and intensity of services.
- Blueprint for Health – Welch provision based on Vermont model promotes patient-centered medical homes which compensate primary care providers for managing and coordinating their patient's care.
- Reform of Medicare Geographic Disparities – Welch-supported amendment requires a two-year, Institute of Medicine study of geographic variations in Medicare reimbursements and a subsequent transition to a quality-based system.

More Information About Rep. Welch's Work On Health Care:

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