

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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