

Rep. Pete Olson

**New Territory Town Hall
Saturday, August 22, 2009**



What's Happening in Washington

Congress has a busy agenda this year the following items are top on the agenda

- Economic Recovery
- Energy
- Health Care

Republican Economic Recovery Plan

- **ENDING THE BAILOUTS AND REFORMING THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM**

Instead of continuing to bail out Wall Street and nationalizing our financial system, Republicans want to protect American taxpayers and provide a transparent recovery process. Our plan will not give special favors to those that have made unsound business decisions, but will ensure that this financial crisis never occurs again.
- **PROTECTING JOBS AND LOWERING TAXES**

Instead of raising taxes on all Americans in the midst of a recession, Republicans seek to create jobs, unlock private capital, and ensure that no family or small business experiences a tax hike.
- **KEEPING ENERGY AND FUEL COSTS LOW**

Instead of taxing all energy users with a new "cap and tax" scheme that will cost an average of up to \$3,128 per household, Republicans want energy independence with increased exploration and the development of new and renewable energy sources.
- **LIMITING THE FEDERAL BUDGET FROM GROWING FASTER THAN FAMILY BUDGETS**

Instead of recklessly borrowing and spending money on wasteful programs under the guise of "stimulus," Republicans seek to ensure that the federal budget cannot grow faster than American families' ability to pay the bill.

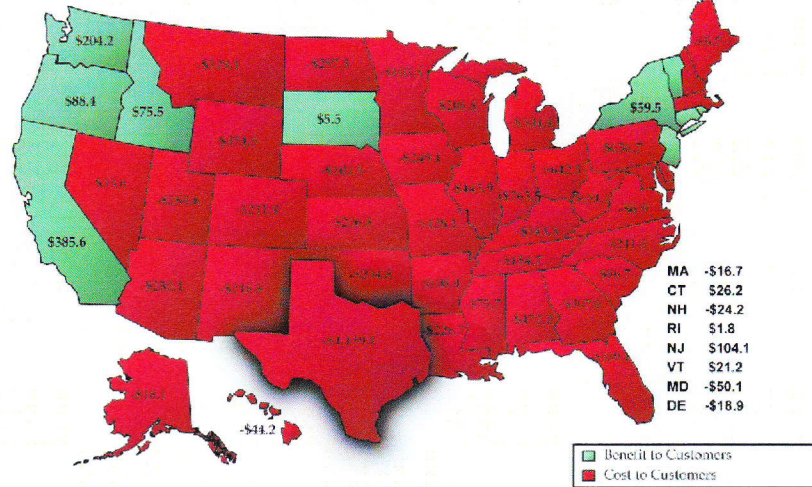
The Real Costs of Cap-and-Trade

- The Texas State Comptroller's Office analysis has indicated that **Texas could lose 135,000 to 277,000 jobs** in 2012, the first year of the proposed cap-and-trade regulation.
- The average Texas household could **pay up to an extra \$1,136** on household goods and services over a year with a total potential **cost to Texas families of 6.9 billion.**

Most States Lose Under H.R. 2454

Consumers in red colored states will pay more for electricity to make up for the shortfall in allowances (dollars in millions).

Based on the allowance allocation formula in H.R. 2454 for electricity consumers, the red states will not have enough allowances to cover their emissions from electricity generation. The shortfall in allowances to the red states will lead to higher electricity costs for consumers, the total of which will roughly correlate with the dollar losses noted on the map. For example, Texas electricity consumers will see electricity costs go up by roughly \$1 billion. To make up the shortfall, red states will have to seek high-cost, non-CO2 emitting electricity sources, reduce electricity production and consumption, or purchase allowances from the green states, or purchase domestic and international offsets, likely a combination of the three.



Based on Energy Information Administration (EIA) and Congressional Budget Office (CBO) data. Dollars in millions. Approximate cost to customers in 2012 (at CBO estimate of \$15/ton).

HOUSE DEMOCRATS PLAN: THE ROAD TO GOVERNMENT RUN HEALTH CARE

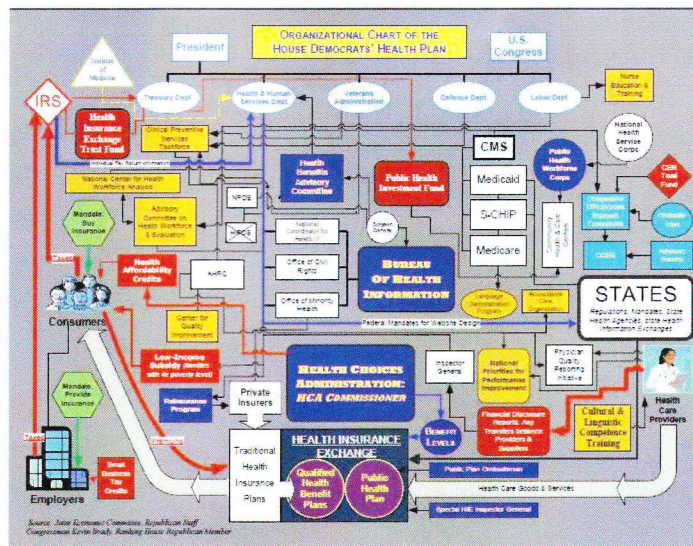
The health care plan offered by Democrats will do three things:

1. Give government bureaucrats power to make your health care decisions
2. Ration Care
3. Raise Taxes

REPUBLICAN PLAN

FIVE CORE PRINCIPLES FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

1. Make quality health care coverage affordable and accessible for every American, regardless of pre-existing health conditions.
2. Protect Americans from being forced into a new government-run health care plan that would eliminate the health care coverage that more than 100 million Americans currently receive through their job.
3. Let Americans who like their health care coverage keep it, and give all Americans the freedom to choose the health plan that best meets their needs.
4. Ensure that medical decisions are made by patients and their doctors, not government bureaucrats.
5. Improve Americans' lives through effective prevention, wellness, and disease management programs, while developing new treatments and cures for life-threatening diseases.



In April, President Obama announced the need for a "difficult democratic conversation" surrounding federal health spending. One of the President's senior health care advisors, Ezekiel Emanuel, has already reached the conclusion that some individuals are more worthy of medical care than others:

*The model includes reasoning why adolescents should receive priority over infants: "Adolescents have received substantial education and parental care, investments that will be wasted without a complete life. Infants, by contrast, have not yet received these investments."

*As the chart shows, and the article admits, "the complete lives system discriminates against older people...[However,] age, like income, is a 'non-medical criterion' inappropriate for allocation of medical resources."

*Dr. Emanuel's other writings show an inclination to direct health care resources away from individuals deemed "unworthy." In 1996, he wrote that, "[Health care] services provided to individuals who are irreversibly prevented from being or becoming participating citizens are not basic and should not be guaranteed. An obvious example is not guaranteeing health services to patients with dementia."

*Given that President Obama's self-appointed "ethicist" supports allocating resources in a way that discriminates against the most vulnerable citizens in our society—infants, the elderly, and citizens with disabilities—who can state with certainty that the federal government will not end up denying treatments to those deemed "unworthy" as a result of Democrats' government takeover of health care?

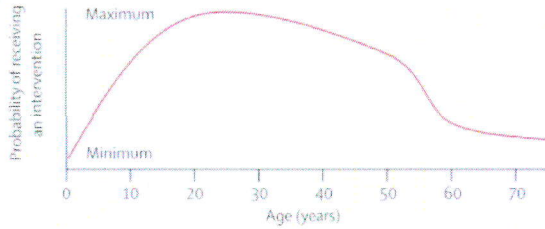


Figure: Age-based priority for receiving scarce medical interventions under the complete lives system.

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/18280675/Principles-for-Allocation-of-Scarce-Medical-Interventions>

Joshua Loya

*Joshua Loya lives in Pearland and his story puts a human face on the health care debate.

*Joshua was diagnosed with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome in his mothers womb.

*His mother, Brittany Kraft was told that he would not be born alive.

*Luckily she had private insurance that paid for special delivery of Joshua in Michigan with a specialist.

*Joshua also received a heart transplant when he was less than three weeks old.

*Brittany Kraft is convinced that her son would not be born under the Democrats proposed public option plan.



Thank You For Coming

- Your time is limited and I appreciate your participation and your input.
- And I thank you for the feedback on issues that are affecting you. I will bring your concerns to the attention of my colleagues and appreciate the opportunity to serve you in Congress.
- If you need to contact me, please call my local office at 281-494-2690 or in Washington at 202-225-5951.

Visit me on the web at www.olson.house.gov.