

Old Country Lawyer, March, 2010
Truth in Labeling, Legislative Application

With apologies to my several friends who escaped from the Soviet Union, and who grew up reading daily lies from a newspaper named "Truth", let the folks who take their politics from a media demagogue who speaks just as much "Pravda" as that newspaper did, be referred to as what they are, "Rushky's". And perhaps let that demagogue himself become "Mr. Pravda".

President Obama has brought the health insurance issue to the right place at what may be the right time. He needs to seize control of the language of the media coverage. The President will bring a bill to a vote, and that bill will pass, likely with every Republican voting against that bill. How this plays out in November's Congressional election will result from the public perception of that bill.

If the Rushky's are successful in continuing to label the bill, which WILL be adopted, as "Health Care Reform" or some less-pleasant term including the word "care", they may confuse enough voters to defeat some supporters of the bill in their bids for re-election to Congress.

But, if the President re-characterizes the bill, specifically in the "reconciliation" phase of the legislative maneuvering, as the "Contain Hospitalization Expenses And Provide Efficient Regulation of Insurance Reconciliation Act of 2010", ("CHEAPER Insurance Act of 2010"), then every Republican member of Congress will truthfully be tagged with "voting against regulating Big Insurance"

One clings to the fervent hope that Americans who have loudly voiced their opposition to "The Government Takeover of Health Care" are not, for the most part, willing shills of the insurance industry, but rather have been confused by the insurance industry's manipulation of the coverage of this legislation.

The President has amply demonstrated his eloquence in use of the language. One hopes that the President's Plan B, now being initiated after the final gasp of Plan A ("Bipartisan Cooperation for the Good of the American People") goes like this:

Step (1). Mitch McConnell and John Boehner order all Republican members of the Senate and the House to vote against the Insurance Regulation legislation popularly referred to as "Health Care Reform", while Rush and the propagandists whip their fans into a frenzy such that the fans believe that if Health Care is Reformed, America will be taken over by the Godless Communists who will Kill Granny. Step (1) has been accomplished.

Step (2): Now that all Republicans have voted against alternate versions of the legislation in House and Senate, push the Senate version through the House with the promise of reconciliation legislation to follow. Step (2) is in process.

Step (3) Introduce the followup bill "Contain Hospitalization Expenses And Provide Efficient Regulation of Insurance Reconciliation Act of 2010".

Step (4): Hope the Republicans vote against the "CHEAPER Insurance Act of 2010".

Step (5a): Let every voter know what members of Congress voted against the "CHEAPER Insurance Act of 2010".

Step (5b) Let every voter know what members of Congress voted FOR the "CHEAPER Insurance Act of 2010", but "voted AGAINST it before they voted FOR it"..

Step (6) Retain working majorities in the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

Lord knows the President is smarter than I am. (Who would have thought that ANYBODY would have said that a few years ago?) This writer hopes the Prez is sufficiently eloquent to embarrass the news media into accurately referring to this legislation as the "CHEAPER Insurance Act" rather than "Health Care Reform", and let Mr. Pravda choke on trying to incite his fans against CHEAPER Insurance.

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