



ROCKING THE HEART OF THE BEAST – MARCHING ON WASHINGTON

By Sherokee Ilse, NHF Board Member

“Kill the bill” (Health Care H.R.3692) rang loudly through the crowd as speaker after speaker gave us even more reasons why this Monstrous Health Care bill is a nightmare to Americans and a takeover of our freedom. Rep. Michele Bachman (R- MN) had put out the urgent message on Friday, October 30th, to “Come to Capitol Hill for a ‘House Call’ on Congress.” We did not disappoint her. With just a few days notice, hundreds of buses had been chartered and filled (26 from New Jersey alone), planes, cars, trains, and the Metro brought thousands more – moms and dads, many seniors, lots of children, and even twenty-to-thirty year olds. By noon on Thursday, there were tens of thousands – anywhere from 25,000-50,000 – of us standing on the lawn of the Capitol. Clearly, there is discontent in America over the takeover of our economy and our freedom by the Constitutionally-ignorant politicians in Washington.

Some people were not happy that practically every Republican spoke at the Noon Press Conference – making it drag on for about two hours. Actor Jon Voight praised Rep. Bachmann, calling her a hero, while surprise guest John Ratzenberger (who played the role of Cliff in the TV series Cheers) was the most eloquent of all. As an entrepreneur, who developed biodegradable, non-toxic packaging alternatives to the Styrofoam “peanuts,” an actor, and an author of *We’ve Got it Made in America: A Common Man’s Salute to an Uncommon Country*, he spoke clearly about how the health-care bill is nothing but a drive towards socialism.

I traveled quite a bit through the crowd giving out NHF “Kill the Bill” stickers and Vote NO buttons and talked with people. Everywhere I went – on the metro, walking the streets, and as we thousands descended on the three House office buildings, the message was the same. “We are not here as political puppets or to rail against one party. We are here to say we have had ENOUGH; Washington politicians need to listen to us.” It is obvious to me that the average citizens, most of them uninvolved in politics until now, have awakened and have decided, “We won’t take it anymore!”

As John Cassidy wrote in his editorial “Confessions of an ObamaCare Backer,” in *The Wall Street Journal* (Nov.

10), participants know what is happening. “Let’s not pretend that it isn’t a big deal, that it will be self-financing, or that it will work out exactly as planned. It won’t. What is really unfolding, I suspect, is the scenario that many conservatives feared. The Obama Administration . . . is creating a new entitlement program, which once established, will be virtually impossible to rescind.” We all get that we are being lied to and we know who will pay this large, never-ending bill, our children and descendants. This sentiment was echoed throughout the Press Conference and the three days I spent with others making our dissatisfaction known.

When we visited the Congressional offices, we received mixed receptions. Some staffers were very kind and willing to let us have our say (mostly Republicans, but some Democratic offices, too), even if they knew their boss was going to vote for the bill. However, there were some very rude people in offices that treated us very disrespectfully.

The Republican Representatives were practically gleeful we had shown up. They hoped it would make a difference by showing Congress that this hardship of traveling to DC with little notice (thus, at great, last-minute expense) was a message to be heard.

While visiting offices, we had opportunities to talk with a few staffers in a conference room, one Legislator, and otherwise, we left our letters and signed in. We were told by



a Legislator Director for Rep. Jim Oberstar (D-MN), that he would **not** be voting for the bill as it stood. This good news was dashed when we noted his support of the bill the very next day – actually night – since the bill was voted on around midnight Saturday night after most of the crowds had gone home.

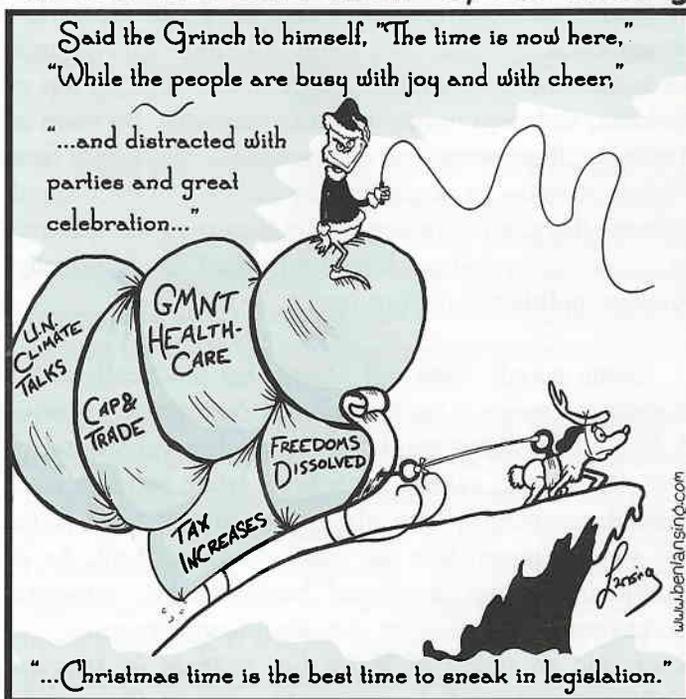
Yet, before that vote, on Saturday afternoon, the Tea Party leaders drew another crowd on the East Capitol lawn where many of us stood for hours to be inspired to keep up the fight. The legislators (all Republicans led by Rep. Steven King, (IA) and Rep. Michele Bachmann, (MN) on the podium took turns speaking and then running into the Capitol to vote, since Rep. Pelosi made sure there were important votes at the same time as the planned second “House Call Rally.” House passes were freely given out to encourage citizens to sit in the Gallery and watch the Legislators as they discussed and voted on one of the most important bills in our lifetime. Many took up the offer.

Unfortunately, the bill did pass, but that only stirred us up more. Clearly, the battle for freedom is ours and the sacrifices required are many. But will our posterity expect anything less? And did not our Founders challenge us to take up this cause, lest their hard-fought battles be forgotten and our freedom lost.

The battle now goes on into 2010, as the Senate bill has also passed. It might be wise for our citizens to heed the wise advice of one of our early leaders, Benjamin Franklin, who said, “We have given you a Republic, if you can keep it.” Wendell Phillips agreed with those sentiments when he penned the words “Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.” 



Out of Order by Ben Lansing



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HELP PRESERVE AND PROTECT

A HEALTH FREEDOM HERITAGE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

One of the most powerful ways to preserve and protect a Health Freedom Heritage for the next generation is by remembering the NHF in your will.

Over the last five decades, periodic bequests from our dedicated members have served as a valuable financial boost to enable us to better fight for your health freedom. Many of the major victories we have achieved through the decades would not have been possible without someone caring enough to remember the NHF in their will.

Please, act today to preserve and protect a HEALTH FREEDOM HERITAGE for the next generation by taking the time to remember the NHF in your will.

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Your passionate advocate for Health Freedom,
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