



Health Promotion Advocates

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Health Promotion Advocates is a group of committed individuals who formed an advocacy group to integrate health promotion concepts into national health policy

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Legislative Priorities

Below are the specific provisions we are advocating for. Our advocates sent more than 11,000 letters to members of Congress to ask for support of these provisions.

Detailed documentation for each of these provisions, including actual legislative language can be found by [clicking here](#). (go to page 2 - 3, 54 has a 3/23/10 press release)

1. Development of a national health promotion plan.
2. Enhanced health promotion research.
3. A national campaign to employers on the benefits of workplace health promotion programs.
4. Technical assistance to enhance evaluation of workplace health promotion programs.
5. Research on best practices in workplace health promotion programs.
6. Regular periodic surveys on workplace health program prevalence and components.
7. Grants or tax credits to pay a portion of the cost of comprehensive workplace health promotion programs.
8. Allow employers to offer employees a premium discount of up to 30% (instead of the current 20%), for positive lifestyle practices or participation in health promotion programs, include safeguards, and refer to Health and Human Services to study benefits of increasing the portion to 50%.

Timing

Timing on passage of health care reform legislation is uncertain. The January 19 election of Republican Senator Scott Brown eliminated the Democrats 60 vote majority and made passage of comprehensive health care reform legislation in the Senate unlikely in the near future. If this remains the case, we will begin advocating for passage of a free-standing health promotion bill.

[Click here](#) to see legislative developments that have occurred since July, 2009.
(see page 2 - 3)

Updates

We will send updates to let you know how legislation is moving through Congress.



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Detailed sources for health promotion provisions advocated by Health Promotion Advocates

Health Promotion Advocates is advocating that the provisions below be included in all health care reform legislation. Sources of legislative language addressing each of these provisions are listed below each provision. All provisions in the Senate are in the HR 3590, Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Managers Amendment which were passed in the Senate on November 24, 2009. All provisions in the House of Representatives are in HR3962, the Affordable Health Care for America Act, which was passed on November 7, 2009.

Click below to see the actual legislative text for the Senate and House health care reform legislation.

1. [HR 3590 Senate Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#)
2. [Manager's Amendment 2786 to HR 3590 Senate Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#)
3. [HR 3962 House of Representatives Affordable Health Care for America Act](#)

1. Development of a national health promotion plan.

Senate: See page 1134 in Sec. 4001. National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council in Title IV - Prevention of Chronic Disease and Improving Public Health.

House of Representatives: See Sec 3121 in Title III: Prevention and Wellness, Title III starts on page 1296 and Sec 3121 starts on page 1299.

2. Enhanced health promotion research.

Senate: See page 1142 in Sec. 4003. Clinical and Community Preventive Services, page 1240 in Sec 4301. Research on optimizing the delivery of public health services (

House of Representatives: See Secs. 3131, 3132 and 3141 in Title III: Prevention and Wellness of HR 3962, Affordable Health for America Act. These sections start on pages 1301, 1308, and 1314.

3. A national campaign to employers on the benefits of workplace health promotion programs.

Senate.: No provisions. Provisions that had been in the Senate HELP Committee were not included in the final Senate bill.

House of Representatives: See page 75, part g of Sec 112 in Title I.

4. Technical assistance to enhance evaluation of workplace health promotion programs.

Senate: See page 1253 in "Sec. 399MM. Technical Assistance for Employer-Based Wellness Programs.

House of Representatives: No provisions

5. Research on best practices in workplace health promotion programs.

Senate: No provisions. Provisions that had been in the Senate HELP Committee bill were not included in the final Senate bill. These provisions may be addressed in part by broad language to examine evidence on the effectiveness of community bases interventions in Sec 4301 on page 1240

House of Representatives: See page 1316 "SEC 3143 Research on Subsidies and Rewards to encourage Wellness and Healthy Behavior

6. Regular periodic surveys on workplace health program prevalence and components.

Senate: See page 1254 in "Sec. 399MM-1. National Worksite Health Policies and Programs.

House of Representatives: No provisions

7. Grants or tax credits to pay a portion of the cost of comprehensive workplace health promotion programs.

Senate: See pages 257 in Manager's amendment Sec. 10408. Grants for Small Businesses to Provide Comprehensive Workplace Wellness Programs.

House of Representatives: Sec 112, Wellness Program Grants, in Title I. See page 69

8. Allow employers to offer employees a premium discount of up to 30% (instead of the current 20%), for positive lifestyle practices or participation in health promotion programs, include safeguards, and refer to Health and Human Services to study benefits of increasing the portion to 50%.

Senate: See Sec 2705, "j" Prohibiting Discrimination Against Individual Participants and Beneficiaries Based on Health Status, on page 83.

House of Representatives: No Provisions

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Health Promotion Provisions are law. - March 23, 2009

President Obama signs Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

We are very excited to tell you that the health promotion provisions we have been advocating for became law when President Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act a few hours ago. These provisions were not part of the reconciliation bill still in discussion in the Senate, so they will remain law regardless of what happens on that bill.

Six of the eight provisions we have been advocating for were passed. Details are below. Some of these provisions will require regulation language to be written before they are implemented, but we expect all of them to go into effect in 2010 and 2011. The other great news is that bill included additional health promotion provisions developed by Senator Harkin and Senator Baucus. All of this represents a huge victory for our field, and for the health of the American people.

The other great news is that bill included additional health promotion provisions developed by Senator Harkin and Senator Baucus. All of this represents a huge victory for our field, and for the health of the American people.

Thank you for all your help in making this a reality. Your letters to members of Congress helped them understand that their constituents supported these health promotion provisions and persuaded them to retain them despite partisan to cut costs as much as possible. These health promotion provisions are one of the few provisions that enjoyed bipartisan support!

Health Promotion Provisions in Health Care Reform Bill

See details at this [link](#) (go back to page 3 - 4)

Included:

1. Development of a national health promotion plan.
2. Enhanced health promotion research.
3. Technical assistance to enhance evaluation of workplace health promotion programs.
4. Regular periodic surveys on workplace health program prevalence and components.
5. Grants to pay a portion of the cost of comprehensive workplace health promotion programs for small employers.

6. Allow employers to offer employees a premium discount of up to 30% (instead of the current 20%), for positive lifestyle practices or participation in health promotion programs, include safeguards, and refer to Health and Human Services to study benefits of increasing the portion to 50%.

Not included:

1. A national campaign to employers on the benefits of workplace health promotion programs. (Note: a limited campaign will be part of the grant program, point #5 above)
2. Research on best practices in workplace health promotion programs (Note: some of the funds from point #2 above can be used for this purpose)

Respectfully,

Michael and Mari

Michael P. O'Donnell, MBA, MPH, PhD
Editor in Chief, American Journal of Health Promotion
Chairman, Health Promotion Advocates

Mari Ryan
Interim Chair, Grass Roots Advocacy Committee
CEO, Advancing Wellness

Advocates Webinar - September 30, 2009

Breaking news on the status of health promotion provisions of health care reform

To replay a recording of the webinar, [click here](#)

To see the slides used in the webinar, [click here](#)

Advocates Webinar - September 8, 2009

Michael O'Donnell update on status of health promotion provisions of health care reform

To replay a recording of the webinar, [click here](#)

To see the slides used in the webinar, [click here](#)

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<http://healthpromotionadvocates.org/news.htm>