

# SPOTLIGHT: Reforming Health-care Reform

➔ Three months after President Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act into law, it remains a political “big . . . deal”—the focus of high-profile lawsuits and nearly every midterm election campaign. But observers say the bill may have become a surprising boon for the pro-life movement, as states have moved to restrict abortion coverage in the “health insurance exchanges” mandated by the law. Meanwhile, House members have introduced the Protect Life Act (H.R. 511) to reinstate the abortion restrictions that were not included in the final health-care reform bill.

**51%** Americans who think private insurance plans should not cover abortion.

*Fox News/Opinion Dynamics and CNN/Opinion Research Corporation*

Americans who think federally subsidized plans should not cover abortion. **56%**

*CBS News*

Restricted private insurance for abortion after the bill's passage.

Passed restrictions in legislature, now awaiting governors' signature.

Introduced restriction legislation.

Had already restricted private insurance coverage for abortion.

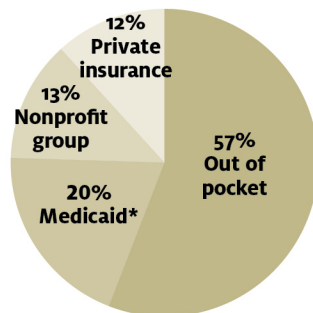
## Ensuring Limits

How states are keeping abortion out of the new insurance plans.



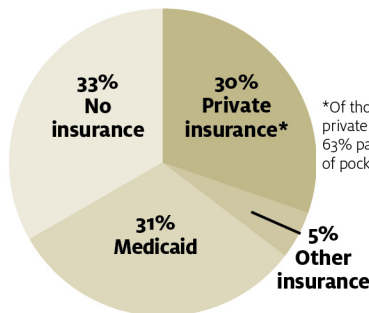
## Does Insurance Matter?

### How women paid for their abortions:



\*17 states allow state Medicaid dollars to pay for abortions in most cases.

### How they were covered:



\*Of those with private insurance, 63% paid out of pocket anyway.

### How much:

**\$413** | **\$1,300**

Average cost for a first-trimester abortion.

Average cost for an abortion at 20 weeks.

### ANOTHER FRONT

The health-care reform bill's mandate to purchase health insurance included an exemption for non-insurance Christian “health care sharing ministries” (like Medi-Share, Samaritan Ministries, and Christian Healthcare Ministries) as well as for “recognized religious sects” like the Amish and Old Order Mennonites that are “conscientiously opposed” to insurance. A win for religious freedom? Liberty University and the Thomas More Law Center don't think so. Both groups filed lawsuits, claiming the exemptions “favor certain religious sects over others” and thus violate the Constitution.