



JEFFERSONIAN GROUP

CHAMPIONS OF FREEDOM AND SELF RELIANCE

The Right To Healthcare?

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President Barrack Obama and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi have said numerous times that healthcare has become a right because of the passage of the [Un] Affordable Care Act commonly referred to as ObamaCare.

The President and Congresswoman either: (1) unwittingly believe in the institution of slavery and do not understand our Constitution, nor the concept of positive versus negative rights; or (2) they firmly are in favor of slavery, as long as they can convince the majority to go along with it. Either way, they are misinterpreting or ignoring our Constitution.

Under the natural rights philosophy, which is enshrined in our founding documents (including our Constitution, the “supreme Law of the Land”), we have a right to pursue happiness or property. This would include a right to *pursue* healthcare. Whereas, a positive right to healthcare, forcing other individuals to provide healthcare, is contrary to the natural rights philosophy in that it requires another individual to “do some act for the benefit of the person entitled.”

As stated in the *Declaration of Independence*, we have “certain unalienable Rights” that include “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.” The rights granted us by our creator (e.g., God or Nature) and so-stated in our founding documents are negative rights not positive rights. We have a right to *pursue* food, shelter, clothing, healthcare, insurance, and other property, but, we do not have a right to these things. If we did, then somebody else would have to be enslaved to provide these things for us.

Obviously, the President and Congresswoman did not read the legislation they passed, which is now referred to as ObamaCare. If they had read it, they may have understood that it is an insurance program designed to limit access to healthcare for the poor and middle-class, along with restricting access to certain life-enhancing and life-saving procedures and expensive technologies.

President Obama and Congresswoman Pelosi, along with the full support of the democratic majority, have not granted us a right to healthcare; they have granted us a right to a very bad and expensive health insurance program. A positive right which enslaves some of us for the benefit of others.

Think about it, if our elected officials have the ability, through legislation, to grant us rights, they can just as easily take them away. Unfortunately, and with great frequency, that is what has been happening since 1937.

Under our Constitutional Republic, our rights to “Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness” are not supposed to be legislated away. If we desire to restore *rightful liberty*, we must throw the socialists out and elect only those to office that understand our Constitutional order.

Dum spiro, spero—While I breathe I hope.

Slainte mhath,

Robert G. Beard, Jr., J.D., LL.M., C.G.M.A., C.P.A.