

**- PRESS RELEASE -****November 9, 2009****Contact: Estevan Montemayor 760 402-3017****[Estevan@BusbyforCongress.com](mailto:Estevan@BusbyforCongress.com)****FRANCINE BUSBY SUPPORTS PASSAGE OF HISTORIC HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL**

Francine Busby, candidate for the 50<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, joins the American Medical Association and the American Association of Retired People in supporting the landmark Affordable Health Care For Americans Act of 2009.

“Although it is not perfect, the Affordable Health Care Act is a first step in the right direction for all Americans including the voters of the 50<sup>th</sup> District. Americans can breathe a sigh of relief that Congress has taken a stand against the status quo that allows insurance companies to dictate medical decisions to healthcare professionals, ration care, bankrupt families, increase costs to employers, and deny coverage to millions of Americans.”

Congressman Bilbray voted against this bill. Bilbray voted against providing access to insurance to over 60,000 uninsured people in his own 50<sup>th</sup> District, and over 500,000 San Diegans across the county. Bilbray seems to be more concerned with the health of health insurance companies than his own constituents. And maybe for monetary reasons: Bilbray has received \$51,000 from health insurance giants including Blue Cross, Cigna and Aflac, along with \$33,000 from insurance political action committees such as the Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers and the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America. Taking insurance companies payoffs and then doing their bidding in Washington ---such as voting against the Affordable Health Care Act --- puts insurance company profits before the well-being of his constituents.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Affordable Health Care For Americans Act of 2009 H.R. 3962 on November 7, and now the Senate is working on its legislation.

Here is some of what the House bill does:

- The House bill enables 36 million people now without insurance to get it.
- The Act ends the insurance industry practice of denying coverage for “pre-existing” conditions.
- Insurance companies will no longer be able to drop coverage when people become ill or want to start a family and need maternity care.
- The Act limits surcharges based on age or gender.
- The Act establishes a national insurance exchange that includes a public option as well as private insurance companies where people can shop for coverage.
- The Act makes prescription drugs more affordable for seniors by closing the dangerous gap in Medicare drug coverage and allowing the program to negotiate lower drug prices.
- It provides benefits to help seniors and people with disabilities live in their own homes and communities.
- It will help Americans struggling to buy or hold on to health insurance.