

Washington, DC - Congressman Wally Herger (R-CA), Ranking Member on the Ways & Means Subcommittee on Health, issued the following statement today after the U.S. Senate voted to advance debate over a government takeover of health care:

“Poll after poll continues to show that Americans don’t want the Democrats’ government takeover of health care. But Senate Democrats chose to ignore the will of the people and use backroom deals to put this bill on the floor. This is not the moderate compromise that Democrats have sold it as. Instead, their partisan Christmas present for the American people this year includes increased health care costs for families and small businesses, tax increases during a recession, cuts to seniors’ Medicare benefits to pay for a new government program, and hundreds of billions more in national debt. They are putting Washington in charge of health care decisions that should be made by patients and their doctors.

“I am deeply disappointed by the actions the Senate has taken over the last 48 hours in trying to slip a highly damaging bill while the American people are caught up in the travel and celebrations of the holiday season. But it is not too late to turn this around. I urge the Senate to let wiser heads prevail, to stand up for the American people and truly listen to them by rejecting this bill.”