



To: Governor Beverly Perdue
Office of the Governor
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

CC: U.S. Representative G.K. Butterfield, U.S. Representative Howard Coble, U.S. Representative Bob Etheridge, U.S. Representative Virginia Foxx, U.S. Representative Walter Jones, U.S. Representative Larry Kissell, U.S. Representative Patrick McHenry, U.S. Representative Mike McIntyre, U.S. Representative Brad Miller, U.S. Representative Sue Myrick, U.S. Representative David Price, U.S. Representative Heath Shuler, U.S. Representative Mel Watt, Mr. Erskine Bowles, President, University of North Carolina

August 19, 2010

Dear Governor Perdue,

Students for Life of America has been investigating a serious issue involving the University of North Carolina System's student health care policies. We have been trying to work with the UNC System but still have many concerns and questions that have not been fully answered. I write to you today to ask about those concerns to ask if you are able to investigate the matter further.

Two weeks ago, we learned that the UNC System was forcing students to buy a student health care plan that covered elective abortions. While there was the opportunity for some students to "opt out" of the plan by submitting a hard waiver showing they had creditable insurance already, many students did not have another option as comparable insurance benefits were not available at the low-cost rates offered by the System. After exposing the truth about the UNC health care plan, the UNC System agreed to allow students to "opt out" of the abortion health care plan and has said students who "opt out" of the abortion coverage in the plan would not fund other students' abortions. While we appreciate the Administration's efforts, there are still serious issues that need answered.

1) Abortion should not be in any health care plan. Abortion is not health care neither for the woman nor her preborn child. What was the process for selecting a health insurance provider and determining which services would be provided in the UNC plan? Who ultimately made the decision to have abortion coverage included in the student health care plan?

2) The UNC System is automatically enrolling students in the abortion health care plan without their consent and then advising students to "opt out" either online or by personally calling Pearce & Pearce, the insurance provider. Why are they not

automatically enrolling students in the non-abortion health care plan? If students want a plan that covers abortion then they should have to “opt in.”

3) The abortion health care plan and the non-abortion health care plan are still being billed at the same amount. If abortion is taken out of the student health care plan, then why are students who “opt out” of the abortion coverage continuing to pay the same premium?

4) How is the money collected from the non-abortion student plan premiums being kept separate from those monies collected from the abortion student plan premiums? It would seem that the UNC decision of creating an “opt-out” policy was only symbolic in nature.

5) Since the UNC Administration is classifying the charge for the student health care plan under the student’s “total cost of attendance,” federal financial aid will be increased based on the abortion health care plan. In turn the federal aid directed to the university for such students will offset the cost of attendance including the abortion health care plan resulting in federal funding for abortion coverage. Has the UNC System informed the Department of Education that federal funds will be used to pay for abortion health care plans? If so, what guidance has the Department provided?

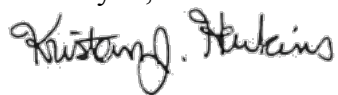
When the Department of Education considers a student for a federal grant, they consider their parent’s income, the student’s income, and the total cost of attendance for school in order to calculate the amount the student is eligible to receive from the federal government.

Because the mandated health care plan is covered under the “total cost of attendance,” this increases the student’s eligibility for federal grants and, therefore, the federal government could be paying for abortions in North Carolina.

The UNC Administration has neither denied this nor explained how federal funds will not be covering the abortions in the health care plan. We believe the American people need to know how their tax dollars are being used and whether or not the University of North Carolina is violating federal laws against federal funding for abortion coverage.

Again, these are serious issues that have not been addressed by the University in our correspondence and to the students attending the University. We ask that you look into the situation in the UNC System and investigate the health care policies they have set in place.

Thank you,



Kristan Hawkins
Executive Director
Students for Life of America