



ACNM Health Reform Update

November 8, 2009

On Saturday evening, November 7, 2009, the full U.S. House of Representatives cast a historic vote to move comprehensive health care reform legislation one step closer to completion. On a vote of 220 to 215, the House voted to approve the "America's Affordable Health Choices Act" (H.R.3962), legislation that ACNM has been working hard on with the Congress for several months to ensure the concerns of midwives and the women they serve are included.

A provision to provide CNMs equitable reimbursement was included in the bill along with provisions to recognize freestanding birth centers under Medicaid, require all health plans to include maternity services as a minimum benefit, and provide midwives and other primary care providers incentive payments under Medicare and Medicaid. [Click here](#) for a detailed summary of provisions of the bill of interest to ACNM members.

Next, ACNM will be working to help move health reform forward in the U.S. Senate in the coming month.