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RomneyCare now funding FREE abortions

A disqualifier for Mitt Romney's candidacy

By [Amy Contrada](#)



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RomneyCare now offers [free elective surgical abortions](#).

Mitt Romney was the enabler. This is how his government-dictated health plan is playing out. And he's still proud of it. When he does touch on defects in his health plan, he never mentions abortion coverage as a problem. He's either fine with it, or realizes he has to downplay it to get the conservative vote.

When the law was first implemented, there was [a \\$50 copay](#) for a RomneyCare elective surgical abortion. Now RomneyCare abortions are "free" for a [\\$0 copay](#) (or \$50-\$100 in some plans). In fact, the \$0 copay shows up as early as [2008](#) at the [Massachusetts Health Care Connector site](#). (The "[Commonwealth Care](#)" plans cover low-income residents, many of whom pay no monthly premiums.)

Of course, the abortions are not exactly free. We, the taxpayers cover the cost, whether we want to or not.

Amazingly, as overall RomneyCare costs and insurance premiums escalate, the copay for abortion drops! Why?

Because government health care is *promoting* abortion. This is really about "population control" by arrogant politicians and bureaucrat elites, righteously implementing [Margaret Sanger's eugenics dream](#). They don't like [excess people](#), especially if they're "low income."

[HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius](#) recently shocked conservatives with her statement that, "The reduction in the number of pregnancies compensates for cost of contraception." For such people, it's an easy jump from contraception to abortion. Just think of all the health care that won't have to be provided if a baby is disposed of before he's born.

They view pregnancy (other than in their own families) as a negative health "condition." It's perfectly fine — and even enlightened — to see a baby as a cancer to be cut out and thrown into the hazardous waste bin.

To what extent does Mitt Romney fit in with that "enlightened" crowd? Possibly, he's just motivated by his overweening ambition — to the point of not caring about anything other than going where he thinks the votes are. Whatever his motives, he cannot erase his severely pro-abortion record.

Romney's pro-abortion timeline

Romney's own record is clearly in support of "a woman's right to choose" to kill her baby, and pro population control:

1992: Romney voted for "[population-control fanatic](#)" [Paul Tsongas](#) in the Democrat Presidential primary.


1994: In his U.S. Senate debate with Ted Kennedy, he said: *"I believe that abortion should be safe and legal in this country. I have since the time that my mom took that position when she ran in 1970 as a U.S. Senate candidate. I believe that since Roe v. Wade has been the law [sic] for 20 years, that we should sustain and support it. And I sustain and support that law [sic] and the right of a woman to make that choice."* ([Video](#))

2002: In his campaign for Governor of Massachusetts, [Romney told Planned Parenthood](#) he supported *Roe v. Wade*, *state-funded abortions* for low-income women, insurance coverage of contraception, expanded availability of "emergency contraception" (the morning-after abortion pill), buffer zones around abortion clinics, and "[age-appropriate sex education](#)" in the schools. He also noted his support for the state law allowing a girl under 18 to bypass her parents and get a judge's permission for an abortion. *"I will preserve and protect a woman's right to choose and am devoted and dedicated to honoring my word in that regard. I will not change any provisions of Massachusetts' pro-choice laws,"* [he said](#) in a debate. (See another of his unequivocal pledges in [this video](#).) He picked [a pro-abortion running mate](#) for Lt. Governor.

Planned Parenthood Advisory Panel of Massachusetts Candidates Questionnaire 2002

Candidate Name: MIKE ROMNEY Party: Republican Office Sought: Governor Campaign Manager: Bob Cook
 State of Campaign Committee: Romney for Governor Committee Address: PO Box 181991, Cambridge, MA 02138
 Campaign Phone: 666-620-9552 Fax: 617-418-6343 (office) Email: rd@romney2002.com (office)
 Are you currently (or were you in the past) an office holder? NO

1. Do you support the substance of the Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade? YES
2. Do you support state funding of abortion services through Medicaid for low-income women? YES
3. Would you vote to support legislation that would require insurers that provide prescription coverage to either design or include provisions coverage for contraception? I want to first evaluate the cost of this program before I commit to supporting it.
4. Reproductive health care facilities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have been targets of harassment, discrimination, and violence. This past legislative session a bill passed that would increase safety standards at reproductive health care facilities by providing a 30-foot buffer zone around patients and staff within an 18-foot radius of the building. These buffer zones, as well as buffer zones around the entrance and exits of such facilities would help protect individuals from harassment and intimidation while preserving the First Amendment rights of persons to express their views. Do you support legislation to establish safety zones surrounding reproductive health care facilities in the Commonwealth? YES
5. Do you support the teaching of respectful, age-appropriate, factually accurate health and sexuality education, including education about both abstinence and contraception, in public schools? YES
6. Anti-life groups have tried to strip a woman's constitutional right to choose by trying to ban specific abortion procedures. One such attempt has been the campaign to ban so-called "partial-birth" abortions. Would you support a ban on such and on other emergency methods of abortion? The double-negative construction of this question is misleading. I support the law already codified in Massachusetts state law which prohibits abortion after 24 weeks except those performed by a physician to save the life of the mother, or when there is a substantial risk of grave impairment to her health.
7. In recent years, a campaign of violence, intimidation, and harassment has been waged against reproductive health providers, patients, and their families. Planned Parenthood believes the federal government should take its appropriate role in ensuring and enforcing laws to deter these illegal acts, and in prosecuting the perpetrators of such acts. Do you support the enactment and enforcement of laws that help protect patients, providers and healthcare workers at reproductive health providers and their patients? YES
8. Currently, according to Massachusetts General Law, if you are under the age of 18 and have never been married, you must have the consent of one of your parents or a judge to have an abortion in Massachusetts. Do you support continuing or altering this state's abortion statute? The double-negative construction of this question is misleading. I support neither state law.
9. In 1998, the FDA approved the first packaging of emergency contraception, often known as "the morning after pill." Emergency contraception is a high dose combination of oral contraceptives that if taken within 72 hours of unprotected sex, can safely prevent a pregnancy from occurring. Do you support efforts to increase access to emergency contraception? YES

Candidate Signature:  Date: April 9, 2002

[Romney's 2002 Planned Parenthood questionnaire.](#)

2002-2006: As Governor, [Romney never expressed religious-freedom concerns](#) over the 2002 state law requiring employers to offer health insurance including contraception benefits. It was just a cost issue to him.

2004 (November 9): Romney claims [he converted](#) to a pro-life outlook following consideration of embryo and cloning research. (So, an *abstraction* supposedly woke him up on the human life issue? Yet, decades' worth of descriptions of abortion techniques and graphic images of tiny babies torn limb from limb had not affected him?)

2005:

- July: [Romney vetoed](#) the "emergency contraception" (morning-after abortion pill availability) bill. His veto was overridden (as he knew it would be). But he had vetoed it *not* due to his new pro-life principles, but to stay true to his campaign promise not to change abortion laws as Governor.
- October: He [contradicted his own veto](#), signing a bill to get a federal waiver to *expand distribution* of "emergency contraception" to low-income women (as he had promised Planned Parenthood he would do in 2002). "The [administration did not publicize](#) the waiver request. Yesterday, the governor's communications director, Eric Fehrstrom, suggested that the decision was not controversial." Planned Parenthood praised the Governor for this act.
- December — Romney [forced Catholic Hospitals](#) to dispense "emergency contraception" (morning-after abortion pill). His pro-abortion Chief Legal Counsel, [Mark Nielsen](#), provided cover for Romney's 24-hour flip-flop (contradicting his own Department of Public Health).

2006:

- April 12: Romney signs RomneyCare into [law](#), including Planned Parenthood on the advisory board setting standards for coverage. He did *not* veto that section of the bill. Abortions were then made available for a mere \$50 copay — with taxpayers actually covering the cost. (Brian Camenker of MassResistance [first revealed](#) the presence of Planned Parenthood on the RomneyCare advisory board, and the [inaugural abortion copay rate of \\$50](#).) Romney hides behind a [false claim](#) that Massachusetts court rulings required inclusion of abortion services, but these rulings on Medicaid referred to only "*medically necessary abortions*," not the *elective* abortions available under RomneyCare.) Romney was proud of his close association with his "collaborator and friend," pro-abortion Senator Ted Kennedy, during the "crafting" of the "bold" new health care plan: "*Senator Kennedy: Together we pitched the secretaries on our vision to insure all our citizens and on the need for federal support to make the vision real. His work in Washington and behind the scenes on Beacon Hill [Mass. State House] was absolutely essential.*" ([Video](#))
- December: Romney donates \$15,000 to Massachusetts Citizens for Life to [buy their endorsement](#).

After his "conversion" and governorship: Romney still declares abortion to be a state's rights issue, believes abortions are acceptable in the case of rape and incest, and says some human embryo research is fine.

2011: His signature achievement, RomneyCare, "progressed" to offering *free* elective abortions. The [Massachusetts HealthCare Connector benefits outline](#) (October 1, 2011) confirms this.

2011-2012: As candidate for the 2012 Republican Presidential nomination, Romney [refused to sign](#) the Susan B. Anthony pledge and is a no-show and major Republican pro-life forums (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

Free abortions: A predictable outcome

Free abortions are a predictable outcome of empowering government bureaucracies with mandating standards of coverage. Did Governor Romney not imagine how things would "progress" — or did he?

Certainly, the Democrat-controlled "[legislature was counting on](#)" a Democrat governor to succeed

Romney to put the real regulatory thumb screws in place." Romney was certainly aware that the next Republican Governor candidate would be very unlikely to win, since one reason *he* chose not to seek re-election was his own weak standing in the polls. (In any case, his hand-picked Lt. Governor and 2006 Republican Governor candidate, [Kerry Healey](#), was proudly pro-abortion. She would have had no problem with this evolution of RomneyCare.)

Individual mandate and coverage mandates

The conservative media are understandably upset over the [rediscovery of Mitt Romney's July 2009 op-ed](#), urging ObamaCare to include an *individual mandate* (for each citizen to purchase health insurance or pay a fine) as pioneered by RomneyCare. (See [RedState](#) and [National Review](#).) That [op-ed](#) contradicts Romney's recent statements that RomneyCare is just a state solution, and he didn't see it as a model for federal health care reform.

The individual mandate is not the only mandate in RomneyCare. Health insurance companies are told by the RomneyCare Health Connector authority which benefits they must include in their various plans, and what the copays will be. One of these mandated benefits is surgical abortion.

Andrew McCarthy [wrote](#) of RomneyCare:

Besides the individual mandate, Governor Romney's op-ed also proposed government-managed cures to address the government-caused cost spiral generated by the government-designed fee-for-service structure. Patients, he suggested, should be "required to pay a portion of their bill, *except for certain conditions*" — to be chosen, of course, by the government... nowhere does the op-ed make any mention of the Constitution. [Emphasis added.]

Thus, Governor Romney opened a wide door. So now, surgical abortion is one of the "certain conditions" in Massachusetts that has *no copay* (or a very low copay in some plans).

And yes, there's also the issue of that bothersome Constitution — whether state or federal — that Romney chooses to ignore (as he also did when implementing ["gay marriage" in Massachusetts](#)).

The conservative media should pay more attention to the mandated benefits side of RomneyCare. As we are seeing at the federal level, bureaucrats who implement legislation exercise tremendous control over how these mandates evolve. It's only a matter of time before ObamaCare regulations follow in RomneyCare's footsteps, and forces coverage for *surgical* abortions — with or without copays.

If people are upset now with mandated contraceptive coverage, wait until abortions are added to [Kathleen Sebelius'](#) must-do list. She is no doubt eager to push the ObamaCare cure for that bothersome "condition" (pregnancy) — namely, abortion.

RomneyCare encourages women to abort their babies, and the taxpayers are forced to pay

RomneyCare's \$0-\$100 copay for a surgical abortion will certainly result in an increase in abortions. The real cost of is carried by taxpayers. This [violates the religious beliefs of a majority of citizens](#).

None of this seems to bother Mitt Romney. He never mentions his RomneyCare abortion benefit, or its moral violation of the citizenry.

A Family Research Council [study](#) notes,

... there is no provision in the [RomneyCare] law for a subscriber's right of conscience. Without a

conscience provision, the individual mandate can lead to abhorrent consequences that make a mockery of its justification on grounds of personal responsibility.

Romney could have vetoed the entire final version of RomneyCare, but instead he signed it. He played with a top-down government healthcare system and we, the citizens, lost.

Romney still defends his "bold" law as a major step forward overall, and refuses to take the blame for any problems now cropping up:

Governor Romney now says that he cannot be held responsible for the actions of the [RomneyCare] Connector board, because it's "an independent body separate from the governor's office." However, *many critics of the Massachusetts plan warned him precisely against the dangers of giving regulatory authority to a bureaucracy that would last long beyond his administration.* (Michael Tanner, [Cato Institute](#), 2008. Emphasis added.)

Many conservatives simply do not trust Romney to change course if he becomes President. Since he likes his RomneyCare, does he really believe it's imperative to overturn ObamaCare?

Conclusion

FREE ABORTIONS funded by the taxpayers: This RomneyCare outrage alone should disqualify Mitt Romney as a Republican candidate for President.

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