

A Prayer for Universal Healthcare Legislation

Holy Father, we thank You for blessing us as a nation with this historic legislative milestone. Thank You for being concerned about the millions of Americans who are without healthcare coverage. Thank You for providing a way for all Americans, regardless of socio-economic status, to be able to receive quality health care. Thank You for desiring that all people be as healthy in their bodies as they are strong in their spirits. Father, Your way is perfect and all of Your promises are true. You are a shield for all who look to You for protection. There is no god except You! You are our solid rock. Lord, You have given us Your shield of victory. Your right hand supports us; Your help has made us great. You have made a wide path for our feet to keep them from slipping.

Gracious King, it is Your will for a nation to help it's poor. You said that if we help the poor, we will be lending to You, and You will repay us. You detest the use of dishonest scales, but You delight in accurate weights. Through the passage of this groundbreaking healthcare reform law, the dishonest scales of the American healthcare system are being addressed and more citizens will have access to affordable healthcare coverage. Lord, as we move towards the implementation of this new law, we declare that our elected officials, who confess Christ, will trust in You with all of their hearts and not depend on their own understanding; they will seek Your will concerning this law so that You will show them which path to take. We confess that healthcare reform will be successful. Lord, we are expecting the power of the Holy Spirit to guide our leaders in government and healthcare to develop the enforcement programs that will abate abusive selective insurance policies, and free healthcare providers who are held captive by costs rather than care. Lord, we decree that our leaders who follow after Christ will operate in Your spirit of love, power and self-discipline. We destroy the works of the spirit of opposition, chaos and confusion. We cancel the assignments and tactics of the spirit of fear that is trying to grip the hearts and minds of some Americans. We declare that the fear of change will not immobilize or hinder the successful implementation of comprehensive healthcare reform in America.

Holy Spirit, You said that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand, so we ask that You would touch the hearts of our President, Congressmen, and political leaders to lay down party politics and begin to work in one accord. Remind them to work for the common good of the people of this country instead of the common good of their political party. Heal the wounds where harsh words and rhetoric have created a rift in the fabric of our American society. Lord of Heaven's Armies, just as You brought forth rivers in the desert, and roads in the wilderness, we ask You to do a new thing by providing our local, state and national leaders with the wisdom to pay for the costs associated with this healthcare legislation.

Loving Father, forgive us as a nation for our many sins. Lord, forgive us for creating a society that allows such a wide disparity between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots.' Forgive us for greed, arrogance, lack of empathy and compassion, and selfishness. Forgive us for making money a god. Forgive us for loving things and using people instead of loving people and using things. Lord, forgive those who confess Christ for allowing fear to manifest into bitterness, anger and rage. Forgive our elected officials for being more faithful to their respective political party than to the American people. Forgive those believers in the American Christian church for their un-Christ-like behavior throughout the healthcare reform process. Forgive us for not bringing the Kingdom of God into the political process. Father, forgive me for (*list any sins that you have committed.*) Holy Spirit, touch every American citizen to forgive and help all of us to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. (*Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to show you names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He shows you, say aloud, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.*)

Holy Spirit, help us all not to yield to temptation; but deliver us all from the evil one.

Glorious King, Your eternal Word stands firm in heaven. Your faithfulness extends to every generation, as enduring as the earth You created. Your regulations remain true to this day, for everything serves Your plans. You are the mighty King, the lover of justice; You established fairness. You have acted with justice and righteousness throughout Israel. We exalt You Lord, our God and bow low before Your feet for You are Holy! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: III John 2, Psalm 18:30-31,35-36, Proverbs 19:17, Proverbs 11:1, Proverbs 3:5-6, II Timothy 1:7, Mark 3:24, Isaiah 43:16-19, Matthew 6:13, Psalm 119:89-91, Psalm 99:4-5