

WASHINGTON – As the House Democrat leadership prepares for the final push to secure passage of its government takeover of health care, Congressman Jo Bonner, R-Alabama, reaffirmed his strong opposition to the Democrat health care bill and its negative consequences for Americans' health care quality and choice.

“During my lifetime, I cannot ever recall a time when our federal government was so determined to defy the will of the people in order to expand its authority and control over their lives. The scope of this legislation and the naked power grab that’s being exercised to force it down our collective throats is absolutely shocking,” Rep. Bonner said.

“My office phones have been ringing off the hook with the pleas of Alabamians from Florence to Foley who are absolutely incredulous that in our country, their government in Washington is simply ignoring their voices. Most callers voiced their outrage.

“By the speaker’s own admission, she wants to pass a health care bill ‘so you can find out what’s in it.’ It is the height of arrogance for any Congress to impose sweeping laws on the people without their consent. Americans are justifiably angered by what they rightly perceive as their government acting in defiance of the peoples’ will.

“I am adamantly opposed to the Democrat leadership’s health care bill as well as the speaker’s

tactics to avoid any recorded votes. What a slap in the face of every hardworking American.

“Earlier today, the House voted down a resolution introduced by Congressman Parker Griffith, R-Alabama, and that I cosponsored, that would have barred the speaker’s attempt to use a parliamentary measure to pass the Senate health care bill without an actual vote. The Griffith resolution would have required an up-or-down House vote on the Senate health care bill.

“From the beginning, I and other conservatives have been willing to discuss real health care reform with the Democrat leadership, but neither they nor the president have been seriously interested in the American people’s views.

“I will cast my vote against the Democrat bill which restricts Americans’ medical care options, slashes \$500 billion from Medicare, and as Governor Bob Riley recently pointed out, is a further unfunded mandate on states that will result in higher taxes for Alabamians.”