

# U.S. Health Reform <sup>1,2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As of 12/16/09 at 10:45 am

<sup>2</sup> Also known as “the good, bad, and ugly”

<sup>3</sup> Also known as “the bill a handful of Senators gave us”

Subtitled:

Be careful what you wish for.....

# What's In Store

- 30 million more insured individuals over a 10-year period
- Expansion of Medicaid program
- Creation of industry run national insurance programs
- Play-or-pay for most individuals and employers
- Deficit reducing but inflation effects less known
- Lots of gimmicks to try and find the right ways to deliver care and staff workforce

# The Good

- Expanding the insured
  - Through subsidies and insurance exchanges
- Deficit reducing
  - Medicare cuts
- Play or pay
  - Could be stronger but there's a meaningful incentive

# The Bad and the Ugly

- The way to provide insurance
  - Status quo approaches with big problems
- Too slow a phase-in
  - Five years for expansion to begin in earnest
- Not addressing key implementation issues
  - Workforce needs, slowing inflation, prescription drug prices

# State Involvement

- Funder
  - Medicaid expansion
- Ramped up regulatory and administrative roles
  - Insurance exchanges, Medicaid expansion, creation of basic insurance plans, ombudsman
- A funnel for lots of demonstration programs
  - Workforce, medical home, ACOs

**Too much decentralization  
to states means a patchwork and  
unfunded mandates in the making**