

For Immediate Release
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Now You Can HEAR What's in the Proposed Health Care Reform Legislation in Congress

Rising Above the Acrimony of Town Hall Meetings, New Web Site Features Voice Actors Reading the Bill So Americans Can Decide for Themselves

A group of voice actors is making a lot of noise about the proposed health care reform bill working its way through Congress - but not the kind of noise heard recently across the country at Congressional town hall meetings.

Instead, the actors have read the bill - all 1,018 pages of it - and made the legislation available as an audio book, online at <http://www.hearthebill.org> .

"Health care reform is an issue that affects everyone, but it's been difficult for many people to cut through the spin of various interests and learn directly what's in the legislation," said Kathleen Keesling, who designed the site, and who, along with fellow voice actor Diane Havens, had conceived the idea of producing an audio version of the proposal. "Now there is a place where everyone can go to read and listen to the bill, educate themselves, ask the right questions for clarification - and then make their own determination about whether to support it."

Using the site is free. In all, over 80 voice actors volunteered to read sections of the legislation.

"We put out a call on voice over forums, blogs and social networking sites to see if there was interest among our colleagues for reading sections of the legislation, and we were overwhelmed," Havens said. "Immediately, dozens of voice actors responded, and we were off and running. People were eager to contribute to helping all Americans know what's in this proposal and how it could have an impact on their lives."

The HR3200 bill is fully downloadable and indexed like an audio book, allowing users to choose which parts they want to hear at their own convenience. It also provides the sight-impaired with an option they otherwise would not have. Others can read along with the audio, and should keep checking back, as the site will be updated whenever the bill is amended to ensure that it remains current.

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