from Phyllis Schlafly

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HILLARY'S HEALTH **RATION CARD**

When President Clinton held up that health card on television, it wasn't a credit card or a bank card. It was a RATION card, and rationing is the bottom line of his health care "reform."

The revelation that 40 percent of Americans will have to pay more for health insurance than they are now paying is only one of the shockers in the 1,300 pages of the Clinton plan. If the Administration were forced to lay all its cards on the table, here is what the fine print on the back of the Clinton health card would say.

This Ration Card is the property of the National Health Board appointed by Bill and Hillary Clinton. It gives access to all your personal medical records by government personnel.

This Ration card requires you to pay for your own health insurance, plus insurance for 37 million currently uninsured, plus insurance for all the early retirees whom the big corporations are dumping onto the backs of the taxpayers.

The Ration Card is good only when a duly authorized Gatekeeper gives advance approval of specific benefits provided by designated doctors or other providers who are members of Regional Collective Alliances.

If you attempt to use your Ration Card outside of the one-tiered, government-authorized system, you will be criminally prosecuted. If use is attempted outside your own geographic area without prior approval from your Collective commissar, care will be denied.

This Ration Card is NOT GOOD with physician specialists unless authorized and available (and they will become scarcer every year under

the Clinton plan to restrict who may train to become a specialist). Cardholders must accept care by non-physician providers, such as midwives instead of obstetricians.

The Clinton plan is not about universal health CARE; it is about COVERAGE. We already have universal CARE today because nobody is denied essential care. Universal COVERAGE means universal CONTROL.

The Clinton plan is to put Big Government in charge of how ALL public and private health-care money is spent -- this is called "global budgeting." Then the Clintonista liberals and feminists will be able to redistribute the spending away from purposes they think are less necessary, and toward purposes that suit their ideology or give them a political advantage.

The original plan for financing the Clinton health plan was laughed out of Washington as a "fantasy." Now, the Clintons plan to finance it by (a) forcing 40 percent of Americans to pay more and (b) mandates on employers. The Clintons will exercise cost control by rationing benefits.

The Clinton health plan will then redistribute the money into (a) a new $2 billion federal bureaucracy, (b) a promise of universal coverage for the currently uninsured, (c) a bailout of the three auto companies and other Fortune 500 corporations that made bad business decisions by promising gold-plated health insurance for early retirees, and (d) making sure that the Clinton's special-interest kinds of health care are covered, such as all abortions, all mental disorders, all substance-abusers, and condom clinics in all public schools.

Rationing will be imposed by an interlocking network of bureaucrats wielding unprecedented power. Under the National Health

Board (which will include politicians and lawyers but not physicians) will be a new oligarchy of Gatekeepers with the power to limit costs by (a) capping health insurance premiums so no money is available for first-class health care, (b) putting a prohibitive surcharge on those who stubbornly insist on first-class health care, and (c) denying treatment to those whom the gatekeepers determine have a poor "quality of life."

The very idea that the Clinton Administration is demanding to run one-seventh of our nation's economy is mind boggling. Just imagine the management decisions involved in redistributing the funds and services for 15 percent of our Gross Domestic Product.

They'll have to decide the premiums and payment formula for each individual plan in each Regional Collective Alliance, when enrollment is to be frozen in high-cost plans and how much surcharges will be, who will get subsidies and how much, the standards and guidelines for the care provided by different kinds of doctors, and the price controls to be imposed on doctors and drug companies.

Under the Clinton plan, this new army of federal bureaucrats will take over the national regulation of insurance and the absorption of automobile insurance into the system. They will make decisions as to how many doctors will be permitted to train as specialists, in which specialties and at what hospitals.

Is America ready for the totalitarian state?