

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1122. This deeply personal and private decision is between a woman, her family, her physician and her beliefs, not the Federal Government. Without providing protection for the health and life of the mother, legislation that prevents doctors from providing patients with the most appropriate medical care is unacceptable. My position on this most sensitive of personal decisions is very simple. When the life or health of a woman is at stake, the Federal Government should not tell the family and their doctor what to do. Regrettably, the alternate bill introduced by Representatives Greenwood and Hoyer that provided an exception for severe health consequences will not be considered today. Instead, with this legislation, Congress is once again promoting an indifference to the health of women instead of rendering a serious policy determination on a matter of grave consequence.