



Betsy McCaughey

Betsy McCaughey is a patient advocate, passionate about healthcare. In 1993 she read the 1,362-page Clinton health bill, warned the nation what it said, and made history. Today she is doing it again. With a Ph.D. in Constitutional History, she can actually tell us what the Obama health law says.

In 2009 medical excellence and freedom came under assault again, and McCaughey put her skills to work. She was the first to uncover the health provisions slipped into the February, 2009 stimulus bill. Members of Congress were stunned to learn the stimulus bill could limit care for seniors and dictate your doctor's decisions.

Since then McCaughey has dissected each major health bill and reported the contents to the nation, dispelling false claims such as “you can keep your health plan if you like it,” or “there will be no cuts to hurt seniors.” She backs up her findings with page references to the bills, her critics respond only with generalities.

Meet Betsy McCaughey—the woman who started it all by **READING THE BILLS**:

Betsy McCaughey is a patient advocate and former Lt. Governor of New York State. In 2004, she founded and is now Chairman of the Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths (also known as RID), a nationwide educational campaign to stop hospital-acquired infections. In five years, RID has made hospital infections a major public issue. It has provided compelling evidence that preventing infection improves hospital profitability as well as saving lives, and RID has won legislation in over 27 states for public reporting of infection rates. RID has become synonymous with patient safety and clean hospital care.

Betsy McCaughey's research on how to prevent infection deaths has been featured on Good Morning America, the CBS Morning Show, ABC's 20/20, and many other national programs.

Betsy McCaughey is the author of over one hundred scholarly and popular articles on health policy, infection, medical innovation, the economics of aging, and Medicare. Her 1994 analysis of the dangers of the Clinton health plan in *The New Republic* won a National Magazine Award for the best article in the nation on public policy

Betsy McCaughey has taught at Vassar College and Columbia University, and she produced prize-winning studies while at two think tanks, the Manhattan Institute and later the Hudson Institute.

From 1995 to 1998, she served as Lt. Governor of New York State. There she campaigned for safer care for patients, including stopping drive-thru mastectomies and

drive-thru childbirths. Her bills became models for legislation in many states and in Congress.

RECENT PUBLIC ADDRESSES

Featured Speaker, Queens County Republican Party, GOP Spring Dinner and Awards Reception, Howard Beach, New York, May 13, 2010

Featured Speaker, Metropolitan Republican Club's 108th Annual Metropolitan Dinner, The Metropolitan Club, New York, New York, May 13, 2010

Keynote Address, Kings County Republican Abraham Lincoln Dinner, The El Caribe Country Club, Brooklyn, New York, May 12, 2010

Featured Speaker, "Overturning Obamacare," Staten Island Women's Republican Club Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn Staten Island NY, May 2, 2010

Cocktail Briefing, "Healthcare: Now What," Hudson New York Briefing Council, New York, New York, April 20, 2010

Healthcare Panel, "Is the Cost of Healthcare Killing Us," National Action Network National Conference, Sheraton New York Hotel, New York, New York, April 14, 2010

Keynote Address, Dutchess County Conservative Party Annual Brunch, Grand Hotel, Poughkeepsie, New York, April 11, 2010

Keynote Address "Protecting American Medical Excellence" Docs 4 Patient Care Conference at the National Press Club, Washington, D.C. March 24, 2010

"Update from Washington" presented to the Albany Federalists Society, Albany New York, March 3, 2010

"Operating in the Red: The Impact of Healthcare Reform on NY State" presented to Healthcare Financial Management Association Annual Meeting, Queens, New York, February 25, 2010

"Protecting Medical Excellence and Liberty," forum hosted by Hudson Institute and Human Events magazine, at the Union League Club, New York City, January 13, 2010

"What the Bills Actually Say," presentation to Women Republican Members of Congress, Capitol Building, Washington D.C. December 16, 2009

Presentation on Hospital Infection, hosted by the Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths, at the L & M Gallery, November 18, 2009

Co-Keynote Speaker with Senator Tom Coburn at the Metropolitan Republican Club, New York City, November 2, 2009

Voices of America's Top Doctors, forum hosted by Betsy McCaughey at the Grand Hyatt, New York City, October 19, 2009 on the impact of federal health legislation

Testified before the New York State Assembly Health Committee on the impact of federal health legislation on New York State, October 19, 2009

Featured Speaker, Hospital Associated Infection Consensus Group, Chicago, October 8, 2009

“Protecting Medical Excellence and Liberty”, Keynote Speaker, American Association of Physicians and Surgeons, Nashville, Tennessee, October 1, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Patient Advocates 2009 Conference, Auburn, ME, October 7, 2009

Tea Party Speaker, on the mall, Washington D.C. September 12, 2009

State University of New York-Downstate Medical Center Grand Rounds, Brooklyn, New York, September 3, 2009

“Protecting American Liberty and Medical Excellence,” Amherst College Forum, September 26, 2009

“Saving New York’s Freedom and Medical Leadership,” Keynote Speaker, Rochester New York Republicans, September 18, 2009

Debate, Henry Aaron of Brookings Institution versus Betsy McCaughey, sponsored by the National Association of State High Risk Pools, Arlington, Virginia, September 17, 2009

“New York Needs Leadership to Protect Its Medical Excellence,” Log Cabin Republicans Event, New York City, September 15, 2009

“Testimony before the New York State Senate Health and Insurance Committees on the impact of federal health legislation on New York State,” September 8, 2009

“New York and the Nation: Health Reform and Its Impact Here,” New York Young Republicans, August 13, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Staten Island New York Tea Party, August 2, 2009

Rally Speaker, Hicksville, Long Island Tea Party, July 30, 2009

“The U.S. Can Afford Medical Excellence,” Keynote Manhattan Institute Luncheon, The Harvard Club, June 24, 2009

“Comparative Effectiveness Research,” Presentation to the Weill Cornell Medical Students Association, New York Presbyterian Medical Center, May 13, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Long Island Jewish Medical Center Staff Society Annual Meeting, Manhasset, NY, May 7, 2009

“UnAmerican Health Goals,” Capitol Briefing to Members of Congress and staff, Capitol sponsored by the American Association of Physicians and Surgeons, Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. April 16, 2009 on the health bills,

Cleaning and Screening,” Keynote Speaker, International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM), Orlando, FL, May 4, 2009

(SHEA) Society of Healthcare Epidemiology Association of America’s 19th Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 20, 2009

Empire State Chief Nursing Officers Council Meeting, Syracuse, NY, March 6, 2009

Featured Speaker, Federation of American Hospitals Annual Conference, Washington, DC, March 3, 2009

WMHT “Health Link” Panel on Hospital Risks, Albany, NY, February 17, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Park View Hospital Systems Annual Infectious Disease Conference, Fort Wayne IN, January 21, 2009

Featured Speaker, APIC Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado, June 17, 2008.

Keynote Speaker, "New Research and Compelling Economic Data in Support of Infection Prevention," Stanford Group Health Conference, New York, NY, June 16th, 2008

PBS "Second Opinion" Panel on Hospital Infections, Rochester, NY, May 3rd, 2008

Guest Speaker, "New Research and Compelling Economic Data in Support of Infection Prevention," Lotos Club, New York, NY, April 17, 2008

Guest Speaker, Association of Health Care Journalists, Washington, D.C., March 28th, 2008

Vassar Brothers Hospital Grand Rounds, Poughkeepsie, NY, March 26, 2008

Keynote Speaker Greater New York Hospital Association C. difficile collaborative for 38 hospitals in the municipal area, March 7, 2008.

Baxter Healthcare Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, January 21, 2008

19th Annual Piper Jaffray Healthcare Conference, New York, NY, November 27, 2007

42nd Annual Region I Conference of the American Society of Microbiology, Harvard Medical Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 2, 2007

Eighth Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control, Budapest, October 2007

Thomas Jefferson University Medical Center Nursing Infection Control Education Day, Philadelphia, October, 2007

Association of Professionals in Infection Control Annual Conference, San Jose, CA, June 25, 2007

MRSA and Families Network International Conference, Trinity College, Dublin, June, 2007

National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition (annual gathering of ICU nurses), Atlanta, May 22, 2007

Hospital Infection Forum (co-sponsored by PALL Corporation), Long Island, NY, March 8, 2007

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Jersey, February 20, 2007.

Grand Rounds, New York-Presbyterian Medical Center, January 8, 2007.

Grand Rounds, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, November 1, 2006

Grand Rounds, Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY, September 27, 2006

"News from the Infection Prevention Front," Live Webcast, Infection Control Today, September 5, 2006

Illinois Hospital Association Quality Leadership Conference in Chicago, May 23-24, 2006

APIC 2006 Futures Summit in Savannah, April 2006

Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America's 16th Annual Scientific Meeting, March 2006

Testimony on Hospital Infection Reporting, Connecticut State Legislature, March 6, 2006

"The Human and Financial Costs of Hospital Infections," Live Webcast, Infection Control Today, February 28, 2006

"Unnecessary Deaths," 2nd Annual Minimizing Healthcare-Associated Infections Conference in Las Vegas, February 27, 2006

"The Most Effective Strategies for Preventing Nosocomial Infections," 3rd Annual Patient Safety Conference at the UPENN School of Nursing, December 2, 2005

"The Compelling Case for Reducing Infection," Manhattan Institute, March 31, 2005

"Preventing Hospital Infection: Saving Lives, Reducing Costs," Harvard Club, March 11, 2005

"The War Against Infection," Keynote, National Conference of Insurance Legislators, February 4, 2005

"Making Hygiene a Central Part of Medicine," Forum on Hospital Infection, Harvard Club, December 7, 2004

"Improving the World's Best Health Care," Rotary Club at the Princeton Club, November 16, 2004

"The Future of Medicine," Weill Cornell Medical College Reunion, October 2, 2004

"Reforming the Malpractice System: Ethical and Empirical Considerations," Long Island Jewish Hospital, sponsored by the Medical Society of the State of New York, June 13, 2003

"Preparing Medicare for an Aging Society," House of Representatives Briefing Sponsored by the Alliance for Aging Research, Cannon Caucus Room, March 17, 2003

"Scientists are Saving Medicare and Protecting Us from Disease," Luncheon speaker at The Advanced Medical Technologies Association Meeting, Chicago, February 23, 2002

Keynote Speaker, "Operating Ambulatory Surgery Centers and Surgical Hospitals," Healthstream Continuing Medical Education event, Chicago, September 27, 2002

"Scientists are Solving the Problem of Aging," Jonathan Edwards College, Yale University, April 10, 2001

Medical Innovation and What It Will Mean To Us," Williams Club of New York, February 8, 2001

"Almost as Good as Cocoon," Fifty New Yorkers luncheon speaker at Alliance Capital, January 25, 2001

Dinner keynote speaker, "Why There Is No Medicare Crisis," Alliance for Aging Research, May 22, 2000

Keynote luncheon speaker at "Medicine Briefing: Research at Risk" for U.S. Congress and U.S. Senate Staff and Members, Senate Caucus Room, April 13, 2000

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2004-present: Founder and Chairman of Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths

2002-present: Adjunct senior fellow, Hudson Institute, national columnist

1999-2001: Senior fellow, Hudson Institute

1994-1998: Lt. Governor of New York State

1993-1994: John M. Olin Fellow, Manhattan Institute

1989-1992: Senior Scholar, Center for the Study of the Presidency

1986-1988: Guest Curator, The New York Historical Society

1983-1984: Post-Doctoral Fellow, National Endowment for the Humanities
1981-1983: Assistant Professor, Columbia University
1979-1980: Lecturer, Columbia University
1977-1978: Visiting Assistant Professor, Vassar College

BOOKS

Government by Choice: Inventing the United States Constitution (Basic Books, 1987) with Preface by Chief Justice Warren Burger, Ret., and Foreword by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan

From Loyalist to Founding Father: The Political Odyssey of William Samuel Johnson (Columbia University Press, 1980).

EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Ph.D. 1976

Dissertation defended with distinction
Richard B. Morris Prize
Bancroft Dissertation Award
John Jay Fellowship

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, M.A. 1972

VASSAR COLLEGE, B.A. 1970

General and Departmental Honors
Woodrow Wilson Fellowship
Herbert H. Lehman Fellowship
Honorary Vassar Fellowship

POST-DOCTORAL AWARDS AND PRIZES

Post-doctoral Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities
John M. Olin Fellowship
H. L. Mencken Award
National Magazine Award for "No Exit," a critique of the Clinton Health Plan
Annual Prize from the American Society of Anesthesiologists

FINANCIAL BACKGROUND

While completing her Ph.D., Dr. McCaughey trained in the corporate banking department at Chase Manhattan Bank, and served as a lending officer in the Food, Beverage, and Tobacco Division. She also studied accounting at the Columbia University School of Business. From 2000 to 2003, she was a regular columnist for *Investors Business Daily*.

Current board positions include: The American Council on Science and Health, The Coalition for a Secure Driver's License, and the Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths.