

***"Louisiana Purchase" & Other Kickbacks would get Axed***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** -- Saying the American people are still outraged over the "sweet-heart deals" added to the health care law, U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan (FL-13) announced today he has reintroduced legislation repealing the so-called Louisiana Purchase and other unseemly spending attached to the law.

Buchanan's bill would target the hundreds of millions in spending added to secure individual votes of several U.S. Senators last year.

"If the health care law could not pass on its own merits but needed to be sweetened with taxpayer boondoggles costing hundreds of millions of dollars then something is grossly wrong with the process," said Buchanan, Florida's only member of the powerful Ways & Means Committee.

The bill repeals the following "sweetheart deals" included in the health care law:

- Additional Medicaid funding for Hawaii hospitals (estimated \$100 million);
- Almost \$100 million in additional Medicaid funding for Tennessee hospitals;
- The "Louisiana Purchase" providing \$300 million in special Medicaid funding for Louisiana;
- Special Medicare funding primarily for hospitals in Michigan and Connecticut (\$300 million);
- The "U-CON" proposal that provides \$100 million for a Connecticut hospital;
- The Frontier Funding provision providing new Medicare money for Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Wyoming (\$2 billion); and
- The provision allowing for certain residents in Libby, Montana to participate in Medicare.