

IT'S HR 676, STUPID

In a statement issued from his home today, Dr. Steven Porter, who opposes Congressman Phil English in the 3rd CD of Pennsylvania, repeated his position on health care for the United States. “The answer is HR 676,” Porter said. “And it has been HR 676 for years.

“The candidates for both the Democratic and Republican presidential nominations, with the exception of Dennis Kucinich, who has it right, have been tap-dancing around the health care issue for a long time. The reason is simple. They are the paid prostitutes of the insurance and pharmaceutical industries.

“Even Hillary Clinton,” Porter continued, “who tried to get health care reform through when husband Bill was President, has not come out four-square for HR 676, the enactment of the Physicians National Health Plan. And Mr. English depends for his very political life on the hundreds of thousands of dollars he gets from the health lobbies. Like the other congressional prostitutes of his stripe, he will never give the people of his district or this nation the care to which they have a right.

“I could give you in the media all the disgusting details about US health costs and the lagging US health care system, but you, like your governmental counterparts, are also mired in the business of making money. You have refused to enlighten the people to whom you cater for the same reasons the Congress fails to enact a not-for-profit national health care system. You are owned.

“So, like your complicity in the slaughter of lives in Iraq, you may pat yourselves on the back for your complicity in the US health care mess. Nice work.

“Now prove me wrong by publishing the HR 676 bill and doing a series of reports on US health care versus the national programs of just about every other industrialized nation. Go on, I'd love to eat crow on this one.

“Do something to change the lament of one of my Erie physicians who, with tears in his eyes, recently said to me, ‘I am tired of seeing my patients fail because they can't afford my services.’ **How about it, media? How about it, candidates? Ready to put morality ahead of the almighty buck??**”