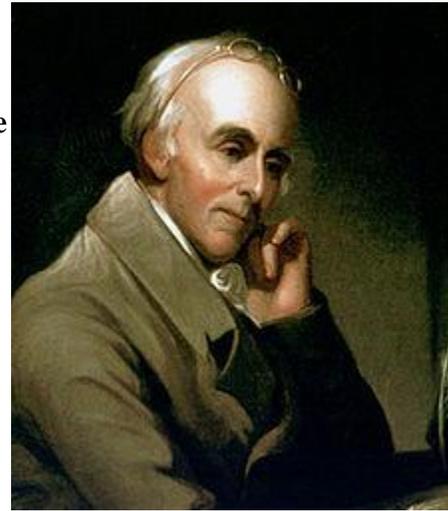


Dr. Benjamin Rush warned about loss of medical freedom over 200 years ago

“Unless we put medical freedom into the Constitution, the time will come when medicine will organize into an undercover dictatorship to restrict the art of healing to one class of Men and deny equal privileges to others; the Constitution of the Republic should make a Special privilege for medical freedoms as well as religious freedom.”

Those are the words of Dr. Benjamin Rush, noted physician, medical professor and an early surgeon general to all Continental armies. A signer of the Declaration of Independence, [Rush represented Pennsylvania at the Continental Congress](#), but not before establishing himself as a popular physician and professor in Philadelphia. A noted humanitarian, Rush was also an important writer, having authored the first American textbook on Chemistry and ultimately contributing several essays to newspapers applauding the Patriot cause.



According to information posted at the Web site [Rush2013.com](#), a movement dubbed the “Dr. Benjamin Rush Project” boasts that “freedom of choice in health care is your natural right,” and urges support for state constitutional amendments that would “reclaim freedom of choice in medical care and practice.” It is a reaffirmation of the [Tenth Amendment](#), essentially. And the amendment itself is simple as well as straightforward:

The People and any lawful inhabitant, resident, or sojourner of the state of (Your state) shall have freedom of choice and practice of any health or medical care modalities as they deem in their own personal best interest and judgment.

It aims to reestablish your right to choose your own medical practice *and* practitioner; it establishes the freedom for physicians to practice alternative medicine techniques, for regular citizens to practice their own forms of medical care, and freedom to purchase medications and treatments without a prescription; it also leaves the responsibility for obtaining medical care – or not – to you; and finally, it frees you from the chains imposed by government healthcare mandates.

Whether or not all of those provisions are things on which more Americans agree remains to be seen. But the premise – freedom from leviathan government’s mandates over your healthcare and health care choices – is noble, as well as necessary.

Sources: <http://www.infowars.com/dr-benjamin-rush-warned-about-loss-of-medical-freedom-over-200-years-ago/print/>
<http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/signers/rush.htm>
<http://www.rush2013.com/>