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Urbanite

F-bomb at health care signing is 'Biden being Biden'

Tuesday March 23, 2010 9:15 PM By Emily Ngo



(Photo: AP)

Can the health care legislation cure Vice President Joe Biden's foot-in-mouth disease?

The gaffe-tastic veep Tuesday dropped an enthusiastic F-bomb at the ceremony where President Barack Obama signed into law the momentous overhaul of America's health care system.

"You did it. This is a big f----- deal," Biden whispered to Obama after introducing him at the White House ceremony. A live

microphone caught every word.

The video has been making the rounds on the Web, and has already inspired an overpriced [T-shirt](#). Many New Yorkers were unfazed by Biden's blunt blunder. As Tisha Brizz, 30, of the Bronx put it: "It's Biden being Biden."

The Obama administration embraced Biden's latest flub. "And yes Mr. Vice President, you're right," tweeted White House press secretary Robert Gibbs.

Though he had lately kept his loose lips in check, Biden is famous for his slip-ups. Biden's wacky reputation reportedly made Obama hesitate to add him to the ticket.

After all, Biden had in 2007 described him as "the first mainstream African-American who is articulate and bright and clean and a nice looking guy."



Last year, the former Delaware senator was busted telling a Senate pal to "give me a f----- break" when he called him "Mr. Vice President." And in 2008, on the campaign trail, Biden



told Missouri state Sen. Chuck Graham to stand up, though Graham is a paraplegic who uses a wheelchair.

That year, he also introduced Obama as “Barack America” and confessed Secretary of State Hillary Clinton would have made a better vice president.

“Cumulatively, it does chip away at someone’s perception as a person of confidence,” said TJ Walker, a speech expert and author of “TJ Walker’s Secret to Foolproof Presentations.” “It’s giving ammunition for opponents to make fun of you ... putting another arrow in their quiver.”

That’s similar to how Brian Jackson, 30, of Long Island, sees it. “No one cares, it’s not that important. They’re just trying to make what Obama’s doing negative. I agree with Biden, it is a f----- big deal.”

Taneish Hamilton contributed to this story.

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Pols with potty mouths

2008: Ex-Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, probed for fraud, said Obama’s vacated Senate seat “is a f----- valuable thing. You just don’t give it away for nothing.”

2004: Former Vice President Dick Cheney told Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) to “go f--- yourself” for criticizing Cheney’s role at Halliburton.

2003: Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) talked to Rolling Stone about the Iraq war, saying he didn’t expect ex-President George W. Bush “to f--- it up as badly as he did.”

1971-73: Ex-President Richard Nixon makes notoriously generous use of profanities in Watergate tapes, but the phrase “expletive deleted” became a national phenomenon.

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