



CITIZEN PETITION to the 2008 MN Legislature

OPPOSING the MN HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE – the proposed “Single Seller” Bureaucracy for Buying Health Insurance

I, the undersigned citizen oppose establishing the proposed MN Health Insurance Exchange in **Senate File 3099** (Berglin-D/Rosen-R) and **House File 3391** (Huntley-D/Thissen-D) because it:

- **Threatens the Citizen’s Right to Purchase Health Insurance Privately.** All insurers must sell through the Exchange. Individuals could buy insurance outside the Exchange only if they are not in a state program *and* if insurers choose to sell outside of the Exchange. All enrollees in state programs, and anyone in the proposed subsidized private health insurance plans, would be required to buy health insurance through the Exchange.
- **Limits Choice of Health Insurance Options:** Employers would have a new insurance mandate *and* this “Single Seller” Bureaucracy would limit the number of health insurance options available for purchase: Health plans must “*offer a maximum of three individual market health plans and three small employer health benefit plans through the exchange...*”
- **Limits Access to Care Using a Government Benefit Set:** “*All plans offered must meet the standard benefit set and design established*” by the proposed unelected 10-person Health Care Transformation Commission. The benefit set will be limited by the decisions of the proposed unelected 7-member Benefit/Design and 11-member technology committees.
- **Creates a Fourth-Party Payer & New Fees:** The “Single-Seller” Bureaucracy will have the power to “*establish and assess fees on health plan premiums of small employer plans and individual market health plans [ME] to fund the cost of administering the exchange.*”
- **Creates a Government Bureaucracy with All-Controlling Powers:** The Exchange would be created by the legislature and run by 11 unelected political appointees. When the proposed H. C. Transformation Commission ends in 2011, all of its policy-controlling powers must “*transfer to the board of directors of the Minnesota Health Insurance Exchange.*”
- **Will Not Likely Remain Voluntary:** “*If voluntary use for the Exchange fails to support an adequate individual and small group insurance market, use of the Exchange may need to be mandated.*” (MN Health Care Transformation Task Force, source of this proposed legislation)

Please deliver this signed petition to Governor Pawlenty and the legislative leadership.

Signature _____ Date _____
 Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____
 _____ *I am also a Healthcare Professional (type):* _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

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Email: info@cchconline.org *or* **COMPLETE AND FAX to CCHC: #651-646-0100**
or click and send online: <http://www.cchconline.org/petition/SingleSeller2008.php>