CITIZEN PETITION to the 2008 Legislature

Opposing any Mandate that Requires All Citizens to Purchase Health Insurance

I, the undersigned citizen:

• **Oppose government-run health care.** A government mandate requiring all individuals to purchase health insurance will eventually lead to government control over all facets of health care. Government will be empowered to set prices, ration care, limit access to medication and medical technology, and interfere in the practice of medicine and the treatment of patients.

• **Oppose increasing the cost of health insurance.** Individual health insurance mandates act as a tax on the income of citizens. Mandates also increase the cost of health insurance by limiting competitive forces, forcing individuals to buy insurance no matter the cost, and giving insurers little reason to offer competitive prices or customized insurance products.

• **Oppose expanding taxpayer-funded government subsidy programs.** To fulfill the health insurance mandate, government will be forced to offer additional taxpayer-funded subsidies and expand current government health care programs. As costs increase, individuals with private health insurance will enter government programs, shrinking the private health insurance market and expanding government health care.

• **Oppose government intrusions that will be imposed on citizens through an individual health insurance mandate.** To find the so-called “free-loaders” (the uninsured), government will require individuals to divulge their insurance status, force employers to divulge the insurance status of their employees, and use various surveillance, monitoring and reporting systems to identify, locate, and financially penalize any uninsured (non-compliant) citizens.

• **Support retaining the right of individuals to have the freedom to choose whether or not to purchase health insurance.** An individual health insurance mandate forces a person to purchase a product they may not want, may consider unaffordable, or may see as a poor value for the cost. Furthermore, health insurance does not guarantee access to medical treatment. (“Health Insurance: Satisfaction Not Guaranteed?” Suffolk Life Newspaper, 12/19/07)

**I call on Governor Tim Pawlenty and the 2008 Legislature to uphold the right of citizens to make personal purchasing decisions, including the right to not purchase health insurance.**

Signature_________________________________________ Date____________________

Name (PLEASE PRINT)__________________________________________________________

___I am also a Healthcare Professional (type):_____________________________________

Address________________________________ City________ State_____ Zip___________

Phone__________________________ Email________________________

Email: info@cchconline.org; COMPLETE AND FAX to CCHC: #651-646-0100

Or click and send online: