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## **Deceptive Bill Sells PPACA Exchange as One-Stop “Marketplace” for Health Insurance**

*Citizens' Council for Health Freedom Criticizes Introduction of Senate*

**Key Facts:**

- The first order of business in the new Minnesota Senate is Senate File 1, which will enact a Minnesota state health insurance exchange.
- Seventy-six (76) times, the bill deceptively describes the exchange as a marketplace for health insurance, when it is actually a government agency created to impose the federal health care reform law.
- The [Citizens' Council for Health Freedom](http://www.cchfreedom.org) calls on all Minnesotans to contact their legislators to urge that they vote down Senate File 1, and for all Americans to recognize the deceptive tactics being used in Minnesota and across the country to enact state health insurance exchanges as requested in Obamacare.

ST. PAUL, Minn. – As Minnesota convened its first session of its 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature, the Senate's most important priority was to introduce and begin passage of Senate File 1: a bill for an act relating to commerce and establishing the Minnesota Insurance Marketplace. According to the [Citizens' Council for Health Freedom](http://www.cchfreedom.org) ([www.cchfreedom.org](http://www.cchfreedom.org)), the bill is deceptive in several ways, most notably in its description of the state healthcare exchange.

***“Senate File 1 repeatedly describes the proposed state health insurance exchange as a ‘marketplace,’ when in fact it is no such thing,” said Twila Brase, President of the Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom. “Marketplaces by their very nature are systems created freely by individuals with goods to sell and individuals who want to buy. This so-called marketplace is a board of seven political appointees with state appropriations, a dedicated state fund, required reporting to the legislature and a federal mandate to interfere in the current health care marketplace, the real one that already exists.”***

Second, **the Exchange is also exempt from various state laws that every other state entity must follow, including rulemaking requirements, and the protective Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA)**, even though extensive data-sharing between the exchange and the federal government is required. The MGDPA requires transparency and accountability.

Individuals and legislators in other states should expect these tactics -- using the euphemism “marketplace” and exempting the exchange from various state laws to impose a federal law as supporters attempt to implement the Obamacare keystone – health insurance exchanges.

States should also be concerned about the privacy of individual data. As Kaiser Health News Senior Correspondent Phil Galewitz recently pointed out in his Twitter feed, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services plans to have a single website for the approximately 30 states with which they will either partner or manage an exchange. The site may have individualized state home web pages, but all will lead to the same destination – a national data-sharing hub and a national healthcare exchange.

***“States are well aware that citizens are concerned about the cost, privacy intrusions, and reduced access to and quality of care that will be regular practices as Obamacare is implemented,” said Brase. “State governments seem to think that by describing these exchanges as marketplaces – which have historically meant easier access and more choices – the public will be lulled into a false sense of security. All Americans must continue to contact their state representatives to urge them not to move forward with these intrusive, federalized state health insurance exchanges.”***

The Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom urges every American – especially those in Minnesota – to contact their legislators in opposition to state health insurance exchanges. To find your representatives and take action, visit the [Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom Congressional and Legislative Contact web page](#).

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**Twila Brase** is president and co-founder of the **Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom**. She has been called one of the “100 Most Powerful People in Health Care” and one of “Minnesota’s 100 Most Influential Health Care Leaders.” The Council’s efforts have stopped government-issued treatment directives, added informed consent requirements for access to patient data and defeated a proposed Health Insurance Exchange. Brase’s daily radio commentary, **Health Freedom Minute**, is a 60-second radio address on pressing health care issues. She has been interviewed by CNN, Fox News, Minnesota Public Radio, NBC Nightly News, NBC’s Today Show, NPR, New York Public Radio, the Associated Press, Modern Healthcare, TIME, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The Washington Times, among others.