Bundling Socialism

Let’s say you want to sell hotdogs in the mall but the government says you can’t directly charge your customers. Instead, customers must pay the mall a set weekly price for hot dog consumption. You must then negotiate with the mall to get a portion of the weekly payment to cover your costs and hopefully make a profit.

This is called bundled payment. And this is how government wants to pay for health care. Bundled payments are “a fixed dollar amount that covers a set of services, defined as an episode of care, for a defined time period.” Laws are now being changed to allow bundled payments to hospitals. Doctors must then duke it out to get paid. Government calls it bundled payments. I call it bundled socialism.