February 3, 2011

What Health Officials Said

Welcome to the Health Freedom Minute. This is Twila Brase, president of Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

Last week I heard state health officials give an hour long marketing presentation to the House health policy committee. In their attempt to limit cuts, I heard something particularly troubling.

The department has 1400 employees and a $1.08 billion budget, but only $75 million comes out of the state’s general fund. The new commissioner said “other sources fund the bulk of what Minnesota does” in public health. That means $925 million comes from other sources such as fees, federal funds, grants from non-profit groups, etc. So exactly who is the agency working for?

More than once, the health department has asked the legislature for statutory authority to do something they are already doing with outside funding. Will the new Republican legislature put a stop to this?

Listen again at healthfreedomminute.net.

The Health Freedom Minute is heard weekdays in Minnesota at 7:03 a.m., 11:03 a.m., 2:03 p.m. and 5:03 p.m. on WWTC AM1280 The Patriot.