



# Citizens' Council on Health Care

*A free-market resource for designing the future of health care*

May 14, 2008

Governor Tim Pawlenty  
Office of the Governor  
130 State Capitol  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Pawlenty,

Thank you for your veto of the health care reform bill, H.F. 3391. However, as we read the final statements in your veto letter, we remain concerned about your intentions for health care reform this legislative session.

In the final statement of your veto letter you say the following:

This bill makes progress in several areas, including improved transparency of price and quality, advancement of e-prescribing and electronic health records, development of medical homes, care coordination of chronic disease, and the beginning of payment reform to pay doctors for evidence-based, high-quality health care.

I hope we can move forward on these areas of common agreement and make some progress toward broader health care reform.

By making these statements, we feel you left a substantial opening for the possibility of enacting health care reform initiatives that lend themselves to price controls and health care rationing.

Health care and government are an unhealthy mix for individualized patient care. Conservatives believe in limiting the role of government in health care. Of great concern to us is your apparent support for socialized medicine legislation that would restrict access to medical care through a new gatekeeper system (the medical home), impose treatment directives, require electronic systems to be interoperable to facilitate proposed government tracking and data gathering systems on patients and doctors, and implement a government-devised payment system for doctors.

The accompanying stack of citizen petitions, and the stuffed jar of business cards all come from individuals very much opposed to expanding the role of government in medical decision-making and in the health insurance industry, starting with the proposed (now deleted) Minnesota Health Insurance Exchange and including the above socialized medicine proposals in H.F. 3391.

To prevent health care rationing, we ask you to reconsider your support for these Big Government proposals. We sincerely hope that they will not become part of some end-of-session negotiated deal. Feel free to call us at any time. We can be reached at 651-646-8935/612-619-1889.

Sincerely,

Twila Brase  
President

Martin N. Kellogg  
Chairman