



ACTION ALERT: URGE CONGRESS TO ADDRESS NONPROFIT CONCERNS FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

While there is some uncertainty about the path forward for comprehensive health care reform, one thing is certain: doing nothing is not an option. Nonprofit employers cannot continue to absorb annual health insurance premium increases of 10 to 30 percent. Approximately 465,000 Minnesotans have no health insurance coverage and that number is increasing. It's time for you to weigh in with Minnesota's Congressional delegation to **make sure that health care reform moves forward and addresses the concerns of Minnesota's nonprofits and the people we serve.**

Background

The vast majority of nonprofits are small employers that are experiencing the same unsustainable increases in health insurance premiums as small for-profit businesses. A provision in the Senate health care bill would extend **tax credits to small nonprofits** that need help in purchasing health care coverage for their employees. This help for small nonprofits needs to be included in any final bill.

Expanding access to affordable, quality care is sound public policy. The House bill expands Medicaid coverage to individuals with incomes up to 150 percent of the federal poverty level while the Senate bill would expand coverage only up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level. We favor the House provision that would expand Medicaid coverage to more Minnesotans.

Providing adequate federal funding for health care reform is essential to expanding access to care and containing the growth in health care costs. **The expansion of Medicaid should be fully paid by the federal government** so as not to create additional financial burdens for states that are ill-equipped to absorb such new costs. The final health care bill should be paired with **funding provisions that are progressive overall** and that will not add to the federal deficit.

What You Can Do

Call Senators Klobuchar and Franken and your U.S. representative today with the following message:

Any health care reform bill should include:

- **Tax credits for small nonprofits (as for small for-profit businesses) so that they can afford to provide coverage for their employees.**
- **Expansion of Medicaid coverage to individuals with incomes up to 150 percent of the federal poverty level.**
- **Federal funding for Medicaid expansion and no shifting of significant new costs onto states.**
- **Financing that is progressive overall and that does not increase the deficit.**

Senator Amy Klobuchar 1-888-224-9043
Senator Al Franken 651-221-1016
Rep. Tim Walz 1-877-846-9259
Rep. John Kline 1-888-808-6644
Rep. Erik Paulsen 952-405-8510

Rep. Betty McCollum 651-224-9191
Rep. Keith Ellison 612-522-1212
Rep. Michele Bachmann 651-731-5400
Rep. Collin Peterson 218-847-5056
Rep. Jim Oberstar 218-727-7474

For more information, contact Steve Francisco, federal policy director, at steve@mncn.org or call 651-757-3088 or 1-800-289-1904 in Greater Minnesota.