



Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Dear Members of the House Commerce Committee,

On behalf of Americans for Prosperity activists across Minnesota, I am writing today to urge your opposition to HF11, which would create an unworkable “public option” on top of existing Minnesota public health programs. We believe that everyone should have access to the high-quality health care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford. But this so-called “moderate” approach of a public option is a false hope.

Centralized approaches to health reform, like Medicaid expansion, “Medicare for all,” or a “public option,” cannot give Americans what they need and deserve: affordability, consumer choice, and peace of mind. Instead, policymakers should advance a “personal option” that expands choice, reduces costs, and guarantees universal access.

Under HF11, the government, instead of immediately abolishing private insurance companies, “competes” with private insurers while also taxing and regulating them. You can guess what will happen. It ends in a government monopoly and thus in widespread disruption, cost hikes for patients, additional burdens on state taxpayers, and reduced access to care.

We have real challenges in our health care system. Despite its strengths, it can be complex, bureaucratic, and unaffordable for many. Too many families struggle to afford needed care and coverage, and tragically, many – even some seniors on Medicare – go bankrupt from high medical bills.

In spite of these challenges, Minnesotans aren’t calling for a government takeover or elimination of private insurance options. Instead, they support targeted changes to fix what’s broken, preserve what works, and ensure a strong safety net for those who need it the most. The Legislature should work to expand access to treatment and care that people can afford by increasing the supply of health care, promoting technology, giving people more control over how they use their health care dollars, and by removing barriers to robust market competition.

Please vote “No” on HF11 when it comes before you in committee. Thank you for your time and attention to these important issues. Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have questions, need more information, or if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Jason Flohrs
State Director
Americans for Prosperity - Minnesota

Through broad-based grassroots outreach, *Americans for Prosperity (AFP)* is driving long-term solutions to the country’s biggest problems. AFP activists engage friends and neighbors on key issues and encourage them to take an active role in building a culture of mutual benefit, where people succeed by helping one another. AFP recruits and unites activists in 35 states behind a common goal of advancing policies that will help people improve their lives.