



March  
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Dear Single-Payer Supporter,

Our state's \$5 billion budget deficit needs to be balanced. Since health care spending accounts for nearly 25% of state expenditures, the work of MUHCC/Campaign for The Minnesota Health Plan has never been more important. We know that by improving the efficiency of our health care system - one payer, one plan for all instead of multiple payers, multiple plans for some - we can provide health care for all Minnesotans without increasing total health spending. Join the Campaign!

Lisa Nilles, M.D.  
Acting Director, MUHCC

### **Seeking Campaign Manager**

MUHCC/Campaign for The Minnesota Health Plan has an opening for a full-time campaign manager. Help us spread the word to those you know who may be interested and able! Applications accepted until April 15. Details at [muhcc.org](http://muhcc.org)

### **Senator Marty introduces bill (SF 1054) to simplify administration of State Health programs**

Senator John Marty, Chief Senate Author of The Minnesota Health Plan, has introduced legislation requiring the state to contract directly with health care providers, rather than HMOs, in delivering health care for low income Minnesotans. MUHCC, long a proponent of "direct contracting" (bypassing the insurance middleman to pay providers directly for services) endorses this bill. The administrative savings of such an approach allows more money to be spent on health care, thereby increasing health care without increasing health care spending.

In a similar vein, Governor Dannel Malloy of Connecticut recently ordered removal of the HMOs from the administration of Connecticut's Medicaid program, estimating that this move would save the state up to \$50 million per year.

## **Introducing Rep. Jeff Hayden, Chief House Author of The Minnesota Health Plan**

Single-payer health care was a key element of Jeff Hayden's 2008 campaign for the Minnesota House of Representatives. Now serving his second term, Rep. Hayden (61B) is a passionate supporter of the MHP in the capitol and in the community.

In a recent Spokesman Recorder newspaper article Jeff wrote, "I believe all Minnesotans should have access to quality, affordable health care. I also believe we need a healthcare system that can deliver on this goal without breaking the state bank for education, public safety, and many other vital services. That is why I have chief-authored the Minnesota Health Plan."

Jeff is committed to bringing new constituencies into the movement, and will be hosting an April healthcare town hall forum in south Minneapolis. Details will be posted on [muhcc.org](http://muhcc.org) as soon as they are available.

Rep. Hayden resides in Bryant neighborhood with his wife Terri and their two children: Tomas and Sophia.

Thank You Representative Hayden!

## **Vermont House passes Single-Payer Legislation!**

On March 24, the Vermont House voted 89-47 to pass their single-payer bill, "Road map to a universal and unified health system." The bill now moves to the Senate for public hearings and a vote due in mid-April. Excellent updates on progress in Vermont posted [here](#).

"Who among us knows exactly what the path to single-payer will be in the US? It might lead right through Minnesota or California or Maine or Vermont well before it rolls in waves of insistent justice through Washington, DC. None of us knows which piece of activist energy or which state bill will be the tipping point. All the points of pressure matter and matter mightily."

Donna Smith, National Nurses United