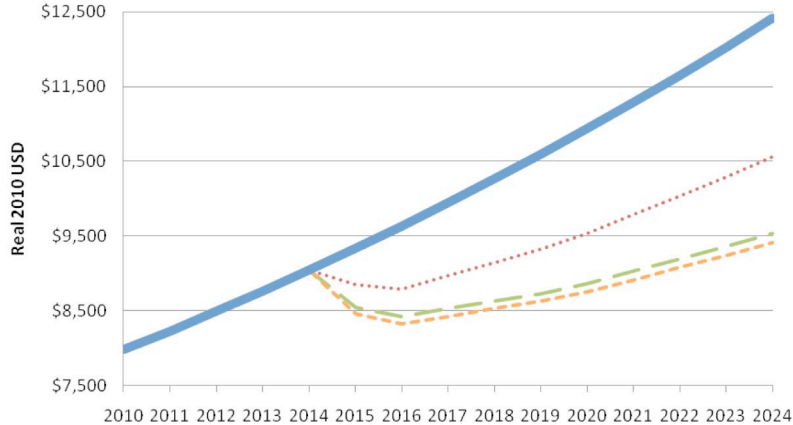


In 2010, the Vermont legislature commissioned Dr. William Hsiao, a Harvard health economist, to design a health care system for the state that would provide equal health access for every Vermont resident, control health care costs, and increase primary health care services in the state. Dr. Hsiao released his final report on February 17, 2011.

Hsiao's final report, released in February, 2011 (tinyurl.com/4lqy3r6) confirms what countless other studies (tinyurl.com/6xr4mdg) have shown: a single-payer system covers more and costs less. Specifically, the Vermont study showed that:

1. Compared to current system, **a single-payer system saves 25%** of total health care costs.

Figure A: Comparison of Vermont Health Expenditure per person under different Options in real dollar terms 2010 – 2024.



The blue solid line (top) is current expenditures.

The bottom two dashed lines (orange and green) are expenditures under a single-payer system.

2. These **savings are then used to cover the uninsured**, increase benefits for the underinsured, invest in primary care and community hospitals – all without any increase in total health care spending.

3. Finally, a **single-payer health care system increases the economic health of the state** by:

- *creating new jobs*
 - job loss in health care administration is exceeded by job creation in health care delivery, and
- *increasing migration into the state*
 - for jobs, not health care

Given the economic crisis in our state, the failure of the federal bill to guarantee universal health care and control costs, and the continued tragic cutting of benefits and access to our public health programs - now is the time for the single-payer solution in Minnesota.