



For Immediate Release

Contact: Craig Orfield
(202) 224-6770

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Enzi Statement on Reid Health Care Bill

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.), Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, made the following statement on the health care bill released yesterday by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid:

“We need health care reform, but it has to be done the right way. We have to bring down costs so that everyone can have access to the quality, affordable care they need. I’m focused on an alternative, step-by-step approach to reduce health care costs, preserve the rights of patients to see the doctors of their choice, protect Medicare coverage for seniors, eliminate discrimination based on pre-existing conditions, and ensure that people can take their insurance with them from job-to-job.

“The Reid bill would drive up health care costs for most families, increase taxes on workers and small businesses, and cut Medicare benefits for seniors. This bill would leave 24 million people without insurance coverage and force millions more to lose the insurance they already have. Want more taxes? How about Medicare cuts? This has them, to the tune of about a half trillion dollars each. The total price tag - \$2.5 trillion. We need to do better than this and I believe we can.

“Like the Pelosi bill, the Reid bill is government-centered, not patient-centered. It’s chock-full of new taxes and higher health care costs that would threaten jobs, weaken our economy, punish families and small businesses trying to make ends meet, and stick our children and grandchildren with the bill.”

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