



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Sen. Leibham, Rep. Vos Introduce Health Care Freedom Amendment *Constitutional amendment would protect personal choice and responsibility*

State Capitol – As Americans and Wisconsinites continue their efforts to understand the realities and ramifications of the Health Care Reform Bill that was signed into law one year ago today by President Barack Obama, serious questions remain regarding the bill’s constitutionality. In an effort to protect the ability of free Wisconsinites to make their own decisions regarding their health care and health insurance, State Senator Joe Leibham (R-Sheboygan) and State Representative Robin Vos (R-Rochester) have introduced the Health Care Freedom Amendment (HCFA).

HCFA is a proposed amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution that would protect and preserve an individual’s right to make decisions regarding their health care and health insurance needs, obtain or purchase private health care services and private health care insurance coverage and prohibit our government from forcing participation in any public or private health care/insurance program.

“The Health Care Freedom Amendment will protect citizens from the unconstitutional takeover of health care,” said Rep. Robin Vos, the Assembly sponsor of the amendment. “ObamaCare is an assault on our precious freedom to choose the right doctor and health insurance.”

The HCFA requires adoption by two successive legislatures and approval by the people via referendum before it can become effective.

“Traditionally in America, we have believed in our ability as free citizens to make and be held accountable for decisions regarding our personal well-being. Increasingly, these freedoms and responsibilities are being threatened by state and federal legislative efforts to place the control over personal health care and health insurance decisions into the hands of government,” Senator Leibham said. “In response to this movement, it has become imperative that we take action to preserve the right of every Wisconsin citizen to make their own health care and health insurance purchasing decisions.”

At least twenty-six states, including Wisconsin, are currently suing the federal government over questions of unconstitutional mandates included in the federal bill and eight states have passed legislation against the law. In addition, more than 900 waivers have already been granted so businesses and organizations will not have to comply with the mandates.

HCFA is currently being circulated for legislative co-sponsors. Leibham and Vos pledge to push the proposal forward during the upcoming spring legislative session.