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Blog Watch

« “Facts” Friday

Friday afternoon roundup

Kate Steadman, KHN

August 7th, 2009

You might not have thought it was possible, but health reform news seemed to become even more intense this week after the House left for August recess and the Senate wrapped up its business.

The [Washington Post](#) hosts a roundtable with newspaper editors from around the nation discussing how they've ramped up their health reform coverage.

On the town hall front, the [Heritage Foundation](#) is collecting video from events and calling it “Town Hall Downfall.” This post features citizens challenging Reps. Mike Ross and Vic Snyder, both D-Ark.

[TPMDC's](#) Eric Kleefield reports that the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee is using the town hall protests to fundraise.

Twitter user [Pourmecoffee](#) has an entertaining [list of “tipz”](#) for town hall protestors, including:



[pourmecoffee](#) Town Hall **Tipz** (tm): Learn the difference between hootin' and hollerin'. Use appropriately.

about 7 hours ago from web



[pourmecoffee](#) Town Hall **Tipz** (tm): Practice your Tarzan yells!

about 7 hours ago from web

Shirley Wang of the Wall Street Journal's [Health Blog](#) has a brief summary of health reform around the world, including developments in China and India.

Scott Hensley of NPR's [Health Blog](#) reacts to a speech from new FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg to a group of industry lawyers: “She sounded pretty tough to us. Her [prepared text](#) featured the words ‘enforce’ or ‘enforcement’ 39 times.”

[Colorado Health Insurance Insider's](#) Louise Norris looks at the differences between car insurance and health insurance, including this point: “People who consider it perfectly acceptable for car insurance companies to cover only catastrophic, future (i.e., not pre-existing)

events find it deplorable when health insurance companies use the same model.”

Cato’s Michael Cannon relates a conversation with PhRMA President Billy Tauzin where he pressed Tauzin on how much money drug makers would make beyond the \$80 billion PhRMA has agreed to contribute toward health reform. Tauzin said “less than \$80 billion,” but Cannon is skeptical, and appears to be fishing for someone to crunch the numbers, which are publically available.

Lastly, the Altarum Institute has a [post](#) from ubiquitous economist and Moody’s cofounder Mark Zandi: “Done right, health care reform will be a boon to the U.S. economy. Done wrong, it will be an economic albatross.”

Tags: [town halls](#)

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