

Patient Power Now

How Government Blocks Health Care Access for the Poor

Posted on [May 31, 2012](#) by [Brian Schwartz](#)
(via [Michael Cannon](#) at [Cato](#))

[Remote Area Medical](#)'s Stan Brock, who spoke at the [Cato Institute](#)'s 2012 State Health Policy Summit, [explains](#):



Cannon continues:

The culprit is state medical licensing laws. For more, read Cato adjunct scholar [Shirley Svorny](#).

My understanding is that state-level medical licensing laws prohibit doctors from providing charity care outside the state where they are licensed. If so, the Colorado legislature should look into allowing out-of-state physicians, dentists, optometrists, etc., to practice charity care in Colorado. Of course, this is probably more of a problem in geographically smaller states with high population densities near their borders.