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## Turn your Head and Cough

Posted by Jarad Perry on June 14, 2009 08:52 pm under [National News](#)

Going to the doctor for most Americans is not really a pleasant endeavor. Being poked and prodded and tested for a all manner of hidden creatures, no not progressives, is not most people's idea of a good time. However, now that the Democrats in congress are setting up to spend more play money on [health care](#) one has to ponder the question, "If the government takes over will they make lolly pops mandatory or will they train more doctors to cover the soon to be long lines of Government run health care?" Well, the answer would probably have to be no, because first, the government wouldn't care about the lolly pops because that is a decadence that we don't need comrade and second, I have a feeling more doctors will leave the profession if they are forced to become government employees.

No one doubts that health care in the United States needs reformed, but a 'so-called' government run competitor is not the answer. According to research done by the [Reason Foundation](#), " about [47 percent](#) of all health care expenses today are paid for by federal, state, and local governments, e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)."

Medicare and Medicaid are in desperate need of reform, and are of future concern because they are major under funded liabilities. The [CATO Handbook for Policymakers](#) chapter on Medicare states, "The \$700 billion bailout of the financial sector enacted by Congress in late 2008 is less than 1 percent of the amount required to bail out Medicare. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that if Congress were to meet that shortfall by raising income taxes, federal individual income tax rates would roughly double by 2050, with the top marginal rate reaching 66 percent."

Yet, Medicare reform is not on the Obama agenda nor is Medicaid or even Social Security for that matter. All of those programs are future budget black holes that will wreck havoc on our economy if not addressed, but that seems to be of no concern to the Democrats who are set to spend more money on a new government program.

Damaged caused by the stimulus, bank bailouts, and auto bailouts can be reversed in time, but the introduction of a public health care option will be near to impossible to turn around down the road. Another concern, of course, is funding, as the only answer to this question seems to be more taxes.

Alternatives to a government plan are laid out by think tanks like the Reason Foundation and CATO Institute that should be looked at before a new draconian bureaucracy is introduced to the American political landscape. If that is done, be prepared for a new government suppository, I mean subsidy, either way it's gonna be painful.

Tags: [congress](#), [democrats](#), [health care](#), [Obama](#)

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