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Recent letters to the editor have criticized this area's congressman, Republican Rep. Paul Broun, for not supporting a public insurance option as part of reforming health care in this country. While there are many issues on which Rep. Broun and I don't see eye to eye, his rejection of the public option is not one of them.

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Proponents of the public option cite the success of Social Security and Medicare as examples of government solutions. News flash, folks: Social Security is essentially bankrupt, and as far back as 1965, the Congressional Budget Office projected that Medicare would cost a mere \$9 billion by 1990. The actual cost was more like \$67 billion.

According to a study by the director of tax policy at the Cato Institute, "Programs in every federal department suffer from fraud, cost overruns and other types of mismanagement." The same study produced evidence that a high school dropout in Miami submitted 140,000 fraudulent claims from a laptop computer in order to cheat Medicare out of more than \$105 million.

President Reagan was right when he said "government is not the solution to our problem, government is the problem."

The Pelosi/Reid/Obama health care bill is economic suicide for this country.

Jeffrey E. Moss

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