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N.D. health care hearing draws Dem objections

North Dakota Democrats say a planned legislative hearing on the new federal health care bill has some people who don't like the measure.

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota Democrats say a planned legislative hearing on the new federal health care bill has some people who don't like the measure.

The Legislature's Industry, Business and Labor Committee is holding the hearing Wednesday in the Heritage Center on the state Capitol grounds. It will be broadcast on the Internet.

Assistant Democratic House leader Kenton Onstad says some of the hearing's scheduled witnesses are "clearly partisan in nature."

One witness is a representative of the libertarian Cato Institute, which is critical of government entitlement programs.

Onstad says he's asking the committee's chairman, Bismarck Rep. George Keiser (KY'zuhr), to allow some Democratic witnesses to speak at the hearing. Keiser couldn't be reached immediately for comment.

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