

## Harry Reid's FEHB public option a bad deal

December 10th, 2009 | by Brian Schwartz |

Writes Michael Tanner of the Cato Institute: “Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) [has announced](#) that he has reached a super secret compromise on how to deal with the so-called public option for health reform.” Instead of a public option, “Congress would establish a program similar to the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program (FEHBP), which currently covers government workers, including Members of Congress. ... In addition, the compromise plan would expand [Medicare](#), allowing workers ages 55 to 65 to “buy in” to the program, and may also expand [Medicaid](#).”

Tanner points out why this is a bad idea. To summarize:

1. FEHB premiums are rising faster than average.
2. Many insurance plans are dropping out or reducing participation.
3. Medicaid and Medicare are budget busters.
4. Medicare expansion threatens providers though cost-shifting.

Read the whole post: [FEHBP Plan Is No ‘Moderate Compromise’](#).

[ShareThis](#)

tags: [FEHB](#), [Harry Reid](#), [Public Health Plan](#)

- [The “Public” insurance plan’s huge market share](#)
- [“Opting out” of the “public option”](#)
- [Barney Frank: “public option” is “best way to reach single payer”](#)
- [Make Congress enroll in “public option”](#)
- [Tony Soprano and the “public plan”](#)