



LETTER: Go slow on insurance exchange

State Rep. Dwayne Alons, R-Hull - November 28th, 2012

HULL, Iowa | In response to the Nov. 20 Journal editorial headlined "Iowa needs to get up to speed on health insurance exchanges," I believe that is exactly what Gov. Terry Branstad is doing by asking the federal government to answer 50 questions that have no clear answers at this time. I know Sen. Jack Hatch, D-Des Moines, is pushing for Iowa to move forward on the issue of a state insurance exchange, but all of the necessary pieces to do that properly and adequately without growing government beyond its current monolithic size are not clearly defined in the federal law.

Governor Branstad's request for clarification on 50 different points is necessary before an informed and responsible decision can be made for Iowa. I applaud the governor's "take it slow" approach since the federal government does not have all of those answers for any state nor the capability to administer the Obamacare program.

I also believe this is a massive, costly program that will actually be controlled by the federal government whether there are state exchanges or not; therefore, the federal government should take all of the responsibility and all of the criticism for its flaws. If you need further reasons for a go-slow approach, please visit the CATO Institute website.

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