



## Analysts: Health care bill's impact uncertain

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BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Analysts told a North Dakota legislative committee that the impact of new federal health care legislation on state finances is uncertain, but they say it isn't likely to reduce insurance costs.

National Conference of State Legislatures analyst Joy Johnson Wilson says the measure includes incentives for small businesses to offer health insurance to their employees. She says "the jury is out" on how they'll react to the bill.

Wilson says she doesn't expect the measure to cause big changes at larger companies.

An analyst at the libertarian Cato Institute says the federal measure won't reduce insurance costs. Michael Tanner says the bill also doesn't achieve universal health coverage.