

Healthcare

From the Office of
Senator Art Robinson
Senate District 2

We heard a lot of opposition to SB 704 yesterday. Single payer healthcare does not work. The result is always rationing and poorer quality care.

I notice that many of the Senators here are older. We should put our constituents first, of course, but do you want *your* healthcare rationed?

If this bill comes to the floor, all the no votes should declare a conflict.

But why is medical care so expensive? I've worked on medical research most of my life and am very familiar with the problems.

Think about it.

What fraction of your life is taken up seeing doctors? For most of us that's a lot less than 1%. So why is healthcare 18% of GDP?

A 1 hour surgery can cost \$50,000 or more. A CT scan costs thousands, when a reasonable rental rate for a machine of that value would be less than \$100. The professionals who run it shouldn't cost more than another \$100.

Medical costs are driven up by bureaucracy and government regulations.

There was very little interest in government control until costs became ridiculously high.

The rational is that government regulation is needed to keep us safe. But many thousands die every year from medical mistakes anyway – and that doesn't count people who would be saved by a better system. It isn't working. It is killing people.

The solution to high medical costs is to get the government out of the way. That is the exact opposite of SB 704.