

MISSOURI SENATE

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Statement from State Senator Rita Days, D-St. Louis County, regarding the filing of H.R. 676 by Congressman John Conyers, D-Michigan:

I applaud Congressman Conyers for his introduction of this important piece of Health Care legislation. I also applaud all of his co-signers for their efforts to create a national health insurance program.

Here in the Missouri State Legislature, I have long championed improved health care coverage for all of our citizens. Eleven times – every year – I have been in office, I have introduced legislation similar to H.R. 676.

We have reached a crisis level when it comes to health care coverage in our country. Too many of our most vulnerable citizens are having to make tragic choices between their housing, food, and paying for healthcare and prescription drugs. In addition, Missourians eligible for full retirement are continuing to work because of the escalating cost of healthcare insurance. This must change.

Under H.R. 676, Medicare would be improved so that all individuals residing in the United States would receive high-quality and affordable health care insurance coverage. They would receive all medically necessary services by the physicians of their choice with no restrictions on what providers they could visit. If implemented, the United States National Health Insurance Act would cover primary care, dental, mental health, prescription drugs, and long term care.

Again, I support H.R. 676 and will urge my constituents and colleagues to let our representatives in Washington D.C. know we need relief now.