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## Sen. Goodman Successfully Adds Community Health Center Measure to Omnibus Insurance Bill

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JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Jack Goodman (R-Mt. Vernon) has successfully added an amendment to HB 229, the omnibus health insurance bill, which will help ensure working Missourians have access to affordable health care.

For many doctors and nurses, the desire to help and serve those around them was instrumental in their decision to pursue careers in the health care industry. Unfortunately, a glitch in Missouri law makes it difficult for these providers to band together as volunteers and use their expertise for the benefit of others.

Senator Goodman's amendment is identical to his [SB 418](#) and will allow certain kinds of charitable health plans that provide services for low income individuals to be clearly exempted from insurance regulations. Since these kinds of plans are volunteer-operated by not-for-profits, they are also eligible to receive donations of equipment, medication and other critical supplies. Taken together, these factors enable plans to provide working families with access to quality and preventative health care at a fraction of the cost.

“One of the great things about Missourians is their constant readiness to lend a helping hand,” Sen. Goodman said. “By getting government out of the way and giving these plans a chance to operate without burdensome health insurance regulations, we will enable health care providers in southwest Missouri to help ensure that their neighbors receive the preventative health care they need.”

A passing Senate vote returns HB 229 to the House for approval.

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