

**Senator Jane
Cunningham**

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MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

Senator Cunningham Calls Federal Healthcare Reform Unconstitutional

Proposed Bill Will Allow Missourians to Retain Right to Choose Medical and Insurance Options

JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Jane Cunningham (R-Chesterfield) told a rally in the Capitol that a measure she filed in the Senate, [SJR 25](#), will shield Missourians from federal healthcare mandates by allowing them to choose their own medical and insurance options, including the right of patients to pay directly for medical services.

“We are ready to fight the unconstitutional encroachments of the federal government upon our state under the guise of healthcare reform,” said Sen. Cunningham. “This so called “reform” is an attack on our freedom, and an effort to control our very lives. This is not about health care – it’s about power.”

While calling Missouri a “sovereign state,” she said SJR 25, also known as the Health Care Freedom Act, will create a constitutional amendment that protects Missourians from healthcare mandates by providing safeguards for small businesses from payroll penalties, and guarding people from the “threat of prison time to purchase a certain product as a requirement to be a citizen.”

“The Healthcare Freedom Act (SJR25) is not an ‘opt-out’ – I am simply in favor of expanding and constitutionally protecting an individual’s options and right to choose one’s own healthcare provider,” said Sen. Cunningham. “This amendment is an affirmation of an individual’s right to choose what works best for them. Should an individual want to keep their own insurance under this proposal, they can. Should they want to take a government plan, we would allow this. In no way will this proposal place any Missourian at a disadvantage.”

She notes that more than half of the Senators in Missouri have sponsored the resolution. “We’re telling the federal government ‘Don’t Tread on The Show Me State,’” said Sen. Cunningham. Video from today’s rally can be found on Senator Cunningham’s multimedia page:

<http://www.senate.mo.gov/multimedia/Cunningham/CunninghamMultimedia.html>)

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