

For Immediate Release: March 23, 2010

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## Senator Cunningham's "Health Care Freedom Act" to be Debated on Senate Floor Wednesday

Missouri Sen. Jane Cunningham's <u>Senate Joint Resolution 25</u>, which prohibits federal laws from interfering with freedom of choice in health care, will allow Missouri to be one of the first states in the country to debate how states will respond to the recently passed federal health care on Wednesday, March 23.

Senate Joint Resolution 25 calls for Missouri voters to approve a constitutional amendment that says no federal law can force a patient, employer, or health care provider to participate in any government or privately run health care system. The legislation will also protect small businesses from hefty mandates and job-killing payroll taxes. The proposed legislation has 20 Senate co-sponsors and is being emulated in 37 other states.

"This legislation doesn't reject any federal health care option, or take away any current health care rights. It simply expands and protects the current options Missourians have," said Sen. Cunningham. "That being said, I will continue to fight the unconstitutional encroachments of the federal government upon our state under the guise of health care reform. We want to tell the federal government 'Don't Tread on The Show Me State.""

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