

State Senator Robert Mayer The Mayer Memo

Senator Robert Mayer - Serving Butler, Dunklin, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Ripley, Stoddard & Wayne Counties



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A Sovereign Missouri Can Decide on Its Own

“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

– 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

I have finally found something good about the proposed federal health care legislation: it has caused many Missourians to contemplate the wisdom found in the U.S. Constitution and the Tenth Amendment.

I believe this amendment ensures that the power of each state trumps anything not spelled out in the U.S. Constitution. Our forefathers warned of power being centralized in the federal government, because they knew that each state needed to retain its rights and remain sovereign – or the ultimate decider – in order to form our more perfect union.

That’s precisely why I’ve joined many of my fellow senators in co-signing three measures that express the desire of many Missourians to reject the federal government’s health care plans and to let Missourians decide for themselves.

The first measure is [SCR 34](#), which reaffirms Missouri’s sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment. This resolution states that sovereignty is defined as the final authority, and *the people*, not the government, are sovereign.

Next, I’ve signed on to co-sponsor [SJR 25](#), which would allow the state of Missouri to let the voters decide on a constitutional amendment that says we don’t have to participate in whatever federal health care plan that is decided upon. I believe that we, the people, can make the decision on our own health, and we don’t need a federal mandate that forces that decision on us.

And finally, I’ve also joined my colleagues in co-sponsoring [SB 747](#), which says that if there are federal health exchanges, or any health exchanges established in Missouri, then those markets cannot offer abortions. I don’t want any taxpayer dollars funding abortion, and this bill covers those concerns.

Long ago, Missourians adopted a slogan in which we challenged the world to “Show Me.” Instead of letting the federal government dictate what they want us to do, let’s have them follow the Tenth Amendment, show us, and allow Missourians decide from there.

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