

National Health Policy Forum

Universal Coverage for Children: States Setting the Pace



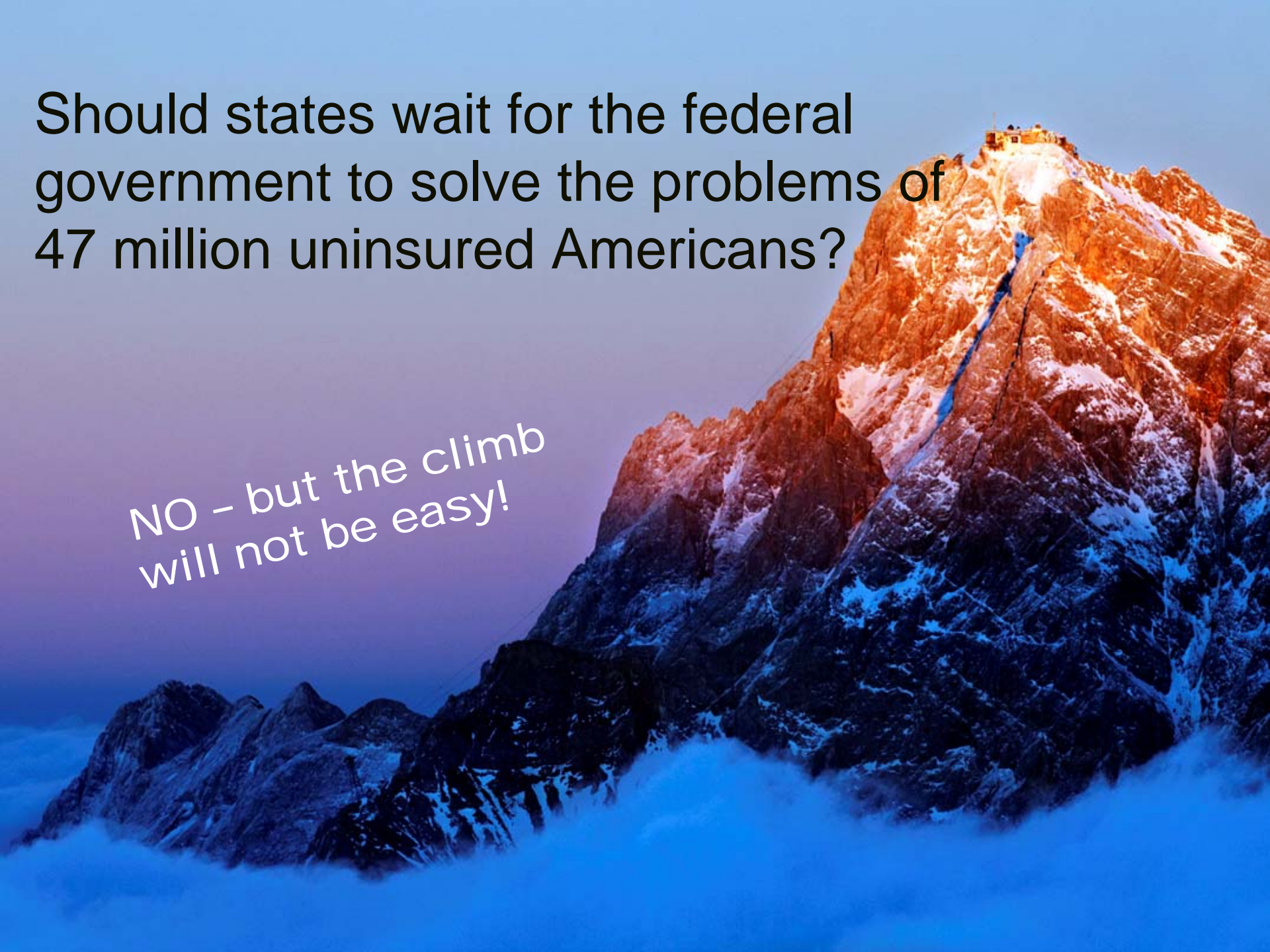
State Senator Jack Hatch
State of Iowa
September 19, 2008

**America has a
health care crisis.**



Should states wait for the federal government to solve the problems of 47 million uninsured Americans?

NO – but the climb will not be easy!



The politicians have failed


Congress, the states and special interests have developed a patchwork approach while failing to achieve broadly accepted long-term solutions.





The states are
already experimenting with
reform

What every state could be doing now?

- ◆ Broad health reform at state level
 - ◆ Shared benefits and burdens
 - ◆ Diverse financing with a key role for Medicaid
 - ◆ Wellness, prevention, and quality control
- 
- A silhouette of a runner in starting blocks, positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the text of the third bullet point.

**Can One
State Do
It All
Anyway?**





The 2007 Iowa Legislature
creates:

**The Iowa Commission on
Affordable Health Care for
Families and Small
Businesses**

Governors Report: December 2007



Iowa House File 2539: Universal Health Care in Iowa

- ◆ First, cover all the kids
- ◆ Then, cover everyone else
- ◆ Make improvements along the way



Political timeline

Public demands action

Democratic plan earns bi-partisan support

Stakeholders push for
complementary positions

Legislative process is absolutely
open and transparent

Leadership support
was critical

Caucuses support

Governor & Lt. Gov
personal support
was critical

Nobody could find a reason
NOT to support the bill



Iowa House: 94-4

Iowa Senate: 42-4

A new day for Iowa health care Universal Coverage for all kids by 2011



House File 2539

Covering All Iowa Children

280,000 Uninsured Iowans

53,000 Uninsured Children

Medicaid & hawk-i	29,000
hawk-i Expansion	5,000
Iowa Choice	19,000
	<u>53,000</u>

Iowa Choice
(19,000 children)

Medicaid, hawk-i and
hawk-i expansion
(34,000 children)

Cost Containment
& Transparency

- Medical Home
- Preventive Care
- Chronic Care Management
- Governor's Wellness

Iowa
Comprehensive
Insurance
Association

Three Year
Funding
Commitment

Develop Plan
for Children

FY 2009 = \$4.8M
FY 2010 = \$14.8M
FY 2011 = \$24.8M

FY 2010
General Assembly

Cover All Children

The image shows the iconic dome of the United States Capitol building in Washington, D.C. The dome is a large, white, neoclassical structure with a prominent central lantern. Below the dome, the building's facade features a series of tall, white columns. An American flag is visible on a pole in front of the building. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue with a few wispy white clouds. Overlaid on the image is the text "On to Washington!" in a large, white, sans-serif font with a black outline, slanted upwards from left to right.

On to Washington!



**No National
Health Care
Policy**

What the states bring to the table



- ◆ More innovation
- ◆ Multiple models
- ◆ Public / private partnerships
- ◆ Shared responsibility
- ◆ Provider ownership
- ◆ Consumer buy-in
- ◆ Political Freedom

Why are states good partners?


- ✦ Experienced providers of services

- ✦ Real budgetary pressures

- ✦ CITIZENS DEMANDING ACTION ARE EASY TO HEAR



Key areas of federal – state cooperation

- ✦ Lower costs
 - ✦ Minimum coverage
 - ✦ No pre-existing conditions
 - ✦ Subsidized coverage for some
 - ✦ Increased quality of patient care
- 

Wish list of federal reforms



Empower states to go beyond Federal Law

- ◆ Invest in Strong State/Federal Partnerships
 - Increase in Medicaid and S-CHIP
- ◆ Reduce Barriers to State Reform
 - Amend federal law which pre-empts states from ensuring all employees have access to affordable and comprehensive coverage (ERESA Reform)
- ◆ Set High Standards, support State Programs

Help reduce costs

◆ Guarantee Affordability

- All health care costs should be limited to a % of income or payroll

◆ Reduce Costs

- Reform must slow the growth of health care

◆ Ensure Safe/Affordable Prescription Drugs

- Prescriptions based on scientific & unbiased data

Improve quality control

◆ Institute "Pay for Performance"

- Quality should receive higher rates of reimbursements than poor quality
- Payment system should provide incentives for quality care, preventive care, Medical Home

◆ Achieve Equity in Health Care

- Reform must eliminate racial, ethnic, gender and income disparities

Universal access

✦ Guarantee Access

- Every US resident be guaranteed access to public/private health plans

✦ Provide for a Public Plan

- For families and businesses

✦ Ensure Accountable and Fair Insurance

- No denial of coverage on pre-existing conditions

A silhouette of a sprinter in a starting crouch on a track, set against a background of curved orange lines.

And don't forget...

POLITICS

It all started in Iowa

