



Health Care for All- Washington

e-Bulletin #4

26 October 2011

HCFA-WA Annual Members' Meeting, Sat. Nov 12th "Getting from the Exchange to Single Payer"

Health Care for All - Washington announces its 11th Annual Meeting , featuring **Dr. Samuel Metz**, from Portland OR, and **Dr. Steven Kemble**, from Honolulu HI [by Skype] speaking on current efforts to get beyond the limits of P.P.A.C.A. The event will be held again at Horizon House Performance Hall at 900 University Street in downtown Seattle. Don't forget to bring a friend!

The afternoon will start with registration and a lunch buffet offered to visitors and members at 12 noon on Saturday Nov 12th, with introductions and program at 12:30. The main presentation with Drs. Metz and Kemble begins at 1 pm, with dialog between them, then among those in attendance until 2:30. A dessert break will be followed by the annual business meeting for members.

Readers may remember Dr. Metz' from NPR's Warren Olney's radio program *To The Point* on Oct 3rd 2011 debating "Healthcare Reform: Should Obama have fought for Single-Payer?" It begins at 7 min. 30 sec. http://www.kcrw.com/media-player/mediaPlayer2.html?type=audio&id=tp111003healthcare_reform_sh

Institute of Medicine supports very weak levels of benefits for the coming Exchange plans; responses welcomed

Physicians for a National Health Program has been alerting advocates of health care reform of that the Institute of Medicine is recommending a grossly inadequate, skimpy, spartan standard for the package of benefits to be offered by health plans in the state insurance exchanges being established under the Affordable Care Act:

<http://www.pnhp.org/news/2011/october/ioms-disturbing-report-on-essential-health-benefits>

Following is a letter asking the Obama administration to reject this recommendation. We encourage everyone who concurs with the views expressed to sign: <http://www.pnhp.org/iom-letter/index.php?UID=1348>

Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer

Montana's "Gov. Brian Schweitzer said Wednesday[Sept 28th] he will ask the U.S. government to let Montana set up its own universal health care program

"The popular second-term Democrat would like to create a state-run system that borrows from the program used in Saskatchewan. He said the Canadian province controls cost by negotiating drug prices and limiting nonemergency procedures such as MRIs.

"Schweitzer told a federal official Wednesday that he will be asking for a waiver allowing the state to abandon the federal programs in favor of one the state will design itself. Schweitzer said details would be coming in the next few months when the request is complete...."

from the *Helena Independent-Record*, 29 Sep 2011.

Read more: http://helenair.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/schweitzer-calls-for-universal-health-care-in-montana/article_4323e198-ea61-11e0-afa5-001cc4c002e0.html#ixzz1bvQCarGm

Autumn 2011 issue of HCFA-WA Newsletter now available by email!

The Health Care for All-Washington *Newsletter* is now available in PDF format. A copy of our full-color version It is now available on our website, [HCFA-WA newsletter Autumn 2011](#). The Board is surveying its readers to see how many are interested in subscribing by email exclusively to help us bring down expenses.

The print edition went into the mail last week. **If you would like the email version in order to help us cut our costs,contact us at info@healthcareforallwa.org.**

This **HCFA-WA e.Bulletin** is provided as a free service to all friends & members of **Health Care for All – Washington**. If you are not yet a member, see our webpage at www.healthcareforallwa.org and **join today!**