

What they're saying about the Connecticut Health Care Partnership...

Towns could save big bucks by using state health care

As local communities continue to search for ways to reduce government costs, State Rep. Christopher Donovan, the majority leader in the House, has a proposal that certainly merits a long look.

-Editorial, *Norwich Bulletin*, 12/17/07

State House Majority Leader Christopher Donovan, D-Meriden, launched a campaign Thursday to open the state health care plan to some 250,000 municipal employees and their families....According to one estimate by legislative researchers, a joint state-municipal health care insurance system could save New Haven \$8.7 million a year...

-*New Haven Register* 11/15/07

An Office of Legislative Research analysis shows there are already 26 states in the nation that combine both their local and state employees in one insurance pool. The same report shows mid-sized towns like East Hartford could save \$1.14 million and large cities like New Haven could save \$8.6 million in insurance costs, if they were able to buy into the state employee insurance pool....

-*CT News Junkie* 11/15/07

...it is hard to imagine why there would be much opposition to such an idea from those who are employed by the towns and cities or by any agency of the state. The benefit plans which exist today for individual groups of municipal employees, and for the much larger group of state employees, are widely regarded as pace-setters, at least from an employee's viewpoint....

-Editorial, *Record-Journal*, 12/02/07

The partnership is proposed legislation that would allow municipal employees to join the state employee health insurance plan. Mr. Donovan stated "they would create a larger pool of lives and lower costs." Mr. Donovan added, "This is a simple thing. The state can bargain for better rates for a lot of folks. When people are asked if they want good health care or bad health care, everyone chooses good. The state workers have a good plan and we think others should be able to share in it."

-*Kent Good Times Dispatch*, 12/07/07

Better health-care insurance at lower premiums? It may sound too good to be true, House Majority Leader Chris Donovan, D-84th District, says it's more than a pipe dream....Through pooling, municipal employees would join with the state employee health plan, creating a large pool of insurance lives and lead to increased bargaining and lower costs.

-*The Herald*, 11/29/07