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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fayetteville, AR, February 22, 2010—Brigadier General Bernie Skoch, announced candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives (Arkansas 3rd District) comments on President Obama's latest health care proposal.

President Obama announced today that he is again on the move to force government-run healthcare on the American people. His latest proposal continues his sharp push to the left, something the American people have overwhelmingly said they reject.

His assertion that his plan will save \$100 billion over the next ten years is not supported by the facts. And more, his projection that it will save a trillion dollars over the following decade is absurd. It is that kind of "fortune telling" that reduces the confidence of the American people in their government. Does he really expect us to believe government bureaucrats can predict the cost of healthcare in the year 2030?

We do NOT need—as he proposes—another government body monitoring and dictating to yet another segment of our economy even more how to do its business.

We do NOT need \$10 billion in new fees on drug companies—fees that ultimately will only be passed on to American consumers.

We do NOT need the federal Department of Health and Human Services telling insurance companies what they can charge people.

We do NOT need excise taxes imposed on families who choose for whatever their reasons to spend their money on better health care plans.

We do NOT need another trillion dollars on another bloated federal program.

What we DO need is the common sense of allowing free markets—including in healthcare—to work.

We need tort reform.

We need to reduce burdens on physicians by allowing procedures that can safely be performed by registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, physicians, therapists, and other health professionals to be done by those people.

We need to promote the sale of health insurance across state lines.

We need to allow the deployment of more neighborhood clinics.

We need to remove absurd government restrictions on premium reductions for people who take good care of their health.

There is much that can and should be done to lower the cost of health insurance, and we need to identify those things. But handing over our healthcare to the federal government—the same people who have given us a bankrupted Social Security program—is exactly the wrong way to make things better. It will only make things worse, and that's why the American people are saying no to his proposal.