

## Healthcare Reform

President Barack Obama has put healthcare reform at the top of the national agenda. This spring, the House and Senate passed legislation creating the Connecticut Healthcare Partnership and the Sustinet plan.

The time for reform is now. The Connecticut Healthcare Partnership will reduce healthcare costs and increase access to quality healthcare for Connecticut families and small businesses. The Sustinet plan will provide long-term planning and prepare Connecticut for federal healthcare financing.



*the House Democrats of Connecticut*

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## Reforming Healthcare: *The CT Healthcare Partnership & Sustinet*

### Overview for Healthcare Partnership

The Partnership would open the state employee health plan to municipalities, non-profits, and small employers on a completely voluntary basis. This would streamline the current system of healthcare purchasing and allow greater access to a bulk purchasing pool which can reduce costs for everyone.

#### The Healthcare Partnership will:

- + Save money for our municipalities and the state;
- + Provide relief for small businesses and non-profit organizations; and,
- + Expand access to high quality, affordable healthcare for individuals and families.

### What the Experts Say

David Osborne, a nationally recognized expert in budgeting and improving government performance, argues that because state governments are such large players in the healthcare marketplace they can obtain better care at lower prices by creating large statewide healthcare purchasing pools, including both public and private employers.

### Self-Insurance Saves Money

A key feature of this year's Connecticut Healthcare Partnership bill is that the state employee health plan will switch from fully insured to self-insured – resulting in an estimated \$70 million in upfront savings to the state and \$10-\$20 million in additional annual savings. Most large employers self-insure because it costs less. A self-insured plan will allow the state to realize long-term savings by directly managing medical claims and health service utilization.

### SustiNet Healthcare Plan

SustiNet is a comprehensive plan that lays out a framework for opening the state employees' health plan to even more residents and creates a structure for a state-wide health care delivery system, while containing costs, promoting preventive care and laying the groundwork for federal health care reform.



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