

Transcript of KCCI coverage of Harkin and Health Care Reform Sunday, August 2, 2009

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Story From Jeremy's question on:

Jeremy: "Don't most people when they purchase their policies, they're a customer, don't they determine their deductible?"

Harkin: "No".

Jeremy: "So wouldn't it, uh, "

Harkin: "No, it's the insurance company determine the deductible".

(Big Lie: I have a high deductible which I chose to lower my monthly premium by about \$30.00. The insurance company prepared the price schedule, but I made the choice. That's called free market - in a heavily regulated industry – but still free market.)

Molly Nelson: "Senator Tom Harkin was telling the crowd about an insured lowan who had to pay \$3,000 out of pocket for a colonoscopy."

Harkin: "That's why we need the public option. Because there are a lot of places in this country where you only have one insurance company. There's no competition whatsoever."

(Big Lie: Google "States with only one health insurance company" and the only returns about that will be opinion blogs, not actual information blog. Factcheck doesn't return an answer either. If you can find such a state, you can bet it is that way because of State Regulations.)

Molly Nelson: "Harkin said he was at Fiesta Itlaiana to enjoy food and friends, but others wanted to talk about what's going on in Washington."

Unidentified young man (Lloyd was standing right beside him): "I think tort reform would be a great step in the right direction for healthcare."

(No response to that from Harkin – does he know how tort law affects health care? Isn't he a lawyer?)

Molly Nelson: "And the Senator welcomes a chance to pitch a bill that seems to drop in public polls."

Harkin: "There has to be something in there that is available to everyone no matter where you live, no matter if you have a job or don't have a job or if you lose a job."

(By what magic? Provided by whom? Paid for by whom? Oops, forgot to figure that out.)

Molly Nelson: "Some watching the Bocci ball competition agree."

Camera cuts to a man in a festival tent.

Unidentified Festival Attender: “I think it’s a good idea to help all Americans. There’s a lot of ‘em that don’t have health insurance.”

Camera cuts to picture of people in a cafeteria.

Molly Nelson: *(wrapping up her story)* It was pasta and politics Sunday on Des Moines’ South Side”.

Back to Studio:

Anchor woman: “Senator Harkin hopes Health Care Reform will focus more on preventative care rather than on costly treatment.”

End of Segment

(Really? Are we to understand that the Public Option might be providing “costly treatment” just like the private option that it is trying to replace? (Gasp) Then why do it? Oh, yeah, that’s right - prevention.

Will the Feds close McDonalds, shutdown Coke, Pepsi, Budweiser and Sara Lee? Or will Obama just fire their CEOs? Will the plan provide free Health Club memberships for all American’s? Will we all have to turn out for calisthenics every morning under penalty of law? How about concentration camps for those evil smokers, beer drinkers and drug users? Oh, and we’ve got to do something about all of those obese people who we all know are single handedly driving health care costs through the roof.

In the words of the great Bugs Bunny: “What a maroon!”)

End of Comment.