



# INTERVIEW ALERT

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## Union Cost Increases in Dem. Healthcare Bill Raises Hospital Costs by \$27 Billion

*Inevitable increase in unionization of healthcare workers inflates healthcare costs of House-passed plan remarkably by 2013*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Government-run health care, like the House-passed H.R. 3962, inflates health care costs by facilitating union organization of healthcare workers. While unionization rates in the private sector have dropped from 24 to 8 percent over the past generation, unionization rates have remained high for government workers with 37 percent of public employees being card-carrying union members.

Under Obama-Reid-Pelosi healthcare legislation, all healthcare workers become quasi-government employees as they will be paid from a federally funded insurance plan. Government employees are five times more likely to work under collective bargaining agreements than private sector workers.

### Look at Canada

In Canada, a country with a government run single-payer healthcare system, 63% of all Canadian health care workers are unionized compared to 12% of U.S. healthcare workers employed in a private system.

### Increased unionization would raise healthcare costs

The more healthcare workers become unionized the more expensive healthcare will become. Union workers receive inflated wages and retirement packages, with new costs being passed to consumers.

**This increased unionization would raise the cost of hospital coverage by approximately \$27 billion in 2013 and \$192 billion from 2013-2018.<sup>1</sup>**

“House Democrats’ healthcare solutions do little to curb the raising cost of health care and, in fact, exasperate the problems present in our current system,” said Executive Director Brian Johnson.

### *National Press & Talk Radio Alert:*

*To schedule an interview with Brian Johnson, call 202-785-0266  
or email [media@workerfreedom.org](mailto:media@workerfreedom.org)*

<sup>1</sup> “Union Contracts of Healthcare Workers Would Inflate Healthcare Costs.” James. Sherk. The Heritage Foundation. November 5, 2009.  
<http://www.heritage.org/Research/HealthCare/wm2681.cfm>