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## **Pence touts health care, energy plan**

Representative speaks at town hall meeting

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*Mike Pence talked health care and touted his new energy plan to a group of 120 Richmond residents Monday morning at Friends Fellowship.*

*Pence, the U.S. Congressman from Indiana's Sixth District, used his 60-minute town-hall meeting primarily to listen to concerns, questions and comments from about a dozen of the attendees. But he also made a point of taking aim at the Obama Administration's government option health care plan.*

*"We believe there are ways to make health insurance more affordable and more accessible without introducing a government option," Pence said.*

*He said he thinks that if the government became involved in health care it would drive some small insurance companies out of the market and cause other companies to stop offering insurance to their employees.*

*Pence also referenced his American Energy Act, proposed legislation he unveiled last week that he said is a response to the Obama Administration's cap and trade proposal.*

*"We need to broaden and diversify our sources of energy," he said. "We need to achieve the highest measure of energy independence. But how we get there is the subject of very strong debate in Washington, D.C."*

*Pence mainly listened and responded to comments and questions from the audience, most of whom were older residents.*

*Many were like Paul Yevcak, 62, of Richmond, who said he was concerned about the cost of the Obama administration's programs and buyouts.*

*"We're going to pass all these costs on to our children. I think the reality of that stinks," Yevcak said.*

*After the meeting, Yevcak praised Pence.*

*"I wish we could have sat here for three hours," he said. "I do think Mike says what a lot of us see and feel."*

*Pence defended his American Energy Act proposal, which calls for domestic oil drilling "on the East Coast, the West Coast, in the Gulf of Mexico and in Alaska." The plan also calls for a renewable energy trust fund to promote development of new technologies, construction of 100 new nuclear plants in 20 years and promotion of practices to conserve energy use.*

Read the rest of the article [HERE](#) .

