



[Health care debate moves to the states](#)

Pence hears from Anderson Rotary Club

Jim Shella

Edited by Andrew Bonner

ANDERSON, Ind. (WISH) - The battle over health care reform shifts from Capitol Hill to the states this week as Republican Congressman Mike Pence (R - 6th District) hung around after the Anderson Rotary Club meeting listening to constituent concerns.

Pence said he's hearing people say they don't want a government takeover of health care. But labor union leaders in Indianapolis have a different message. They want both a public health insurance option and a mandate to employers to provide health benefits included in Barack Obama's reform plan.

While back in Anderson, Congressman Pence said reform is necessary, though he won't support the president's plan.

"I believe there are modest and meaningful reforms that we can embrace," insisted Pence.

The debate in Indiana and in Washington is far from over. In fact, Mike Pence believes the most important part of the debate -- the five week period when Congress is in recess -- is now under way. That's when lawmakers are most likely to hear from constituents first hand.



Job fair attracts 1,000 Hoosiers

Kevin Rader/Eyewitness News

"The American people want to see health care reform in Congress, but I don't believe they want a government takeover. Most Americans understand that if Washington, DC creates a new government-run insurance plan that millions of Hoosiers will lose the health insurance that they currently have," said Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN06).

Pence says something needs to be done about the nation's health care crisis, but it must be the right move.

As Hoosiers lined up to apply for one of 2,500 jobs offered by 68 employers on Tuesday, Pence says he's not looking for another job in Washington other than the one he already has.

"I have no plans to run for president. My focus is on serving the people here in eastern Indiana but also doing everything I can around the country to elect as many conservatives as possible," said Pence.