

AARP – Illinois  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
Campaign for Better Health Care  
Citizen Action Illinois  
Health and Disability Advocates  
Illinois AFL-CIO  
Illinois Chiropractic Society  
Illinois Mainstreet Alliance  
Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition  
Illinois Nurses Association  
Illinois PIRG  
Illinois Public Health Association  
Illinois Society for Advanced Practiced Nursing  
Lutheran Advocacy - Illinois  
Planned Parenthood of IL  
Protestants for the Common Good  
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
SEIU Healthcare Illinois Indiana  
SEIU – Illinois Council  
SEIU – Local 73

---

Sponsors Include:  
Sen. Koehler  
Sen. J. Collins  
Sen. Crotty  
Sen. Delgado  
Sen. Hutchinson  
Sen. E. Jones III  
Sen. Lightford  
Sen. Martinez  
Sen. Munoz  
Sen. Noland  
Sen. Raoul  
Sen. Sandoval  
Sen. Steans

## VOTE YES ON SB 1729: ILLINOIS SMALL BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS NEED A COMPETITIVE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKET TO FIGHT RISING HEALTH COSTS

---

SB 1729 will create a health insurance exchange that will make costs more predictable by allowing small businesses and individuals to pool their buying power so insurers compete for their business.

### **SB 1729 will benefit small businesses and families by:**

- **Lowering health care premiums** by strengthening the bargaining power of small business owners and individuals
- **Make costs for small businesses more predictable** by creating a large pool of consumers; one sick employee is less likely to spike costs.
- Giving small businesses and individuals a **more transparent choice of plans** that they can easily compare on price and quality.

### **Now is the time to act and create an exchange marketplace**

- SB 1729 is based on more than 6 months of public hearings and stakeholder meetings that included patient and family advocates, employers, insurers, providers and producers.
- Failing to create a governing board will mean **\$150-200 million lost in federal funds** to implement the program.
- Other states have already taken similar action, including Utah and California and more are considering proposals including Kansas, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

### **HB 1577 denies consumers the competitive marketplace they need**

HB 1577, a competing proposal, does not include a governance plan while making unnecessary, pre-emptive policy decisions that will weaken the power of small businesses to negotiate for lower prices.

---

**For More Information: Brian Imus, 312-399-3834 or email [brian@illinoispirg.org](mailto:brian@illinoispirg.org)**

