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Ed Martin to Hold “Town Hall on Health Care”

More than 500 Sign On-line Petition Asking Carnahan to Hear Their Concerns

(ST. LOUIS, Mo) Jan. 11, 2010 –Congressional Candidate **Ed Martin** will give Missouri voters something Rep. Russ Carnahan has so far neglected to offer: a **town hall meeting** before Congress votes on a **final** version of the **trillion-dollar health care bill** that will hurt seniors and working families throughout Missouri.

On **Thursday, Jan. 14**, Martin will host a “**Town Hall on Health Care**,” from **7 to 10 p.m.**, at Two Hearts Banquet Hall, 4532 S. Lindbergh Blvd., in south St. Louis County. **Everyone who attends** the forum **will get a chance to speak** either at the meeting or later during a “**video comment**” session. After the meeting, the campaign will post the **voter videos** at EdMartinForCongress.com. The forum will also feature speakers who work in the health care field.

“Although I appreciate that Congressman Carnahan held public meetings over the summer, at the time we had no idea what a **final health care bill** would look like – or cost,” said Martin. “Now that we *do* know how bad this legislation is for Missouri voters, it’s only fair that we get a chance to ask Carnahan why he still supports it.”

A public poll released today by **Rasmussen Reports** shows that **55% of Americans oppose the health care plan** proposed by the president and Congressional Democrats, and that **57% believe it will lead to higher costs**.

Since mid-December, Martin has been asking Congressman Carnahan to commit to a meeting with citizens. Since Carnahan has failed to do so, Martin decided to move ahead with plans to give voters a public chance to speak. Last week, Martin sent an invitation asking Carnahan to **lead and keynote** the meeting, but so far the Congressman has not responded. In the meantime, **Martin’s campaign has gathered more than 500 “signatures” through an on-line petition** that asks Carnahan to hold a meeting **before** he votes.

Thursday’s **meeting is open to anyone who wants to attend**, but to ensure adequate seating voters are being asked to RSVP at www.EdMartinForCongress.com.