



# The Forgetful Forty-One

*Have Republican Lawmakers Lost Their Way?*

A total of 41 Republican lawmakers recently joined with Democrats in voting for a bill that would have provided \$170 million to the General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC) program. Governor Pawlenty vetoed a similar GAMC bill last session, citing the skyrocketing cost of the program. This year's bill was once again promptly vetoed by the governor, who prefers a comprehensive rather than piecemeal solution to our state budget deficit.

Current GAMC enrollees are scheduled to be moved onto Minnesota Care on April 1<sup>st</sup>. It's a less generous subsidized program that provides insurance that is on par with private policies used by most Minnesotans, at a far lower cost to the taxpayers. With costs projected to grow 36% annually, the GAMC model was simply unsustainable.

Democrats don't want to consider real reform. Some Republican lawmakers also could not avoid being influenced by special interests that continue to lobby for more state spending in spite of a projected \$5.4 billion budget deficit in the next biennium.

Here's the list of Republican lawmakers that voted in favor of the GAMC bill:

Rep. Jim Abeler (HD48B)	Sen. Dennis Frederickson (SD21)	Rep. Carol McFarlane (HD53B)
Rep. Paul Anderson (HD13A)	Rep. Pat Garofalo (HD36B)	Rep. Denny McNamara (HD57B)
Rep. Sarah Anderson (HD43A)	Rep. Steve Gottwalt (HD15A)	Sen. Geoff Michel (SD41)
Rep. Michael Beard (HD35A)	Rep. Bob Gunther (HD24A)	Rep. Mark Murdock (HD10B)
Rep. Laura Brod (HD25A)	Rep. Rod Hamilton (HD22B)	Rep. Bud Nornes (HD10A)
Rep. Tony Cornish (HD24B)	Rep. Joe Hoppe (HD34B)	Rep. Joyce Peppin (HD32A)
Rep. Greg Davids (HD31B)	Rep. Larry Howes (HD04B)	Rep. Tim Sanders (HD51A)
Rep. Matt Dean (HD52A)	Rep. Tim Kelly (HD28A)	Rep. Marty Seifert (HD21A)
Rep. Randy Demmer (HD29A)	Rep. Mary Kiffmeyer (HD16B)	Rep. Steve Smith (HD33A)
Rep. Rob Dettmer (HD52A)	Sen. Paul Koering (SD12)	Rep. Paul Torkleson (HD21B)
Sen. Steve Dille (SD18)	Rep. Morrie Lanning (HD09A)	Rep. Dean Urdahl (HD18B)
Rep. Connie Doepke (HD33B)	Rep. Jennifer Loon (HD42B)	Rep. Torrey Westrom (HD11A)
Rep. Keith Downey (HD41A)	Rep. Tara Mack (HD37A)	Rep. Kurt Zellers (HD32B)
Rep. Rob Eastlund (HD17A)	Rep. Doug Magnus (HD22A)	

Minnesota voters who are concerned about out-of-control state spending should contact these lawmakers and let them know what you think about their vote. The switchboard numbers at the state capitol are (651) 296-2146 for House members and (651) 296-0504 for members of the Senate.