

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Jeff Fortenberry today called for a straight “yes or no” vote on the Senate-approved health care legislation now before the House of Representatives.

“A policy this costly, complex, and far-reaching deserves a “yes or no” vote,” Fortenberry said. “With one-sixth of America’s economy at stake, bypassing a direct vote undermines the democratic process and dishonors the trust Americans have placed in their elected representatives.”

Fortenberry also expressed his concerns with the underlying bill.

“We need the right kind of health care reform that lowers costs, improves health outcomes, and protects vulnerable persons. Unfortunately, this bill will significantly shift costs to more unsustainable government spending and erode health care liberties.”

Fortenberry, a member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, joined many of his colleagues this afternoon in seeking to stop the “Slaughter solution,” a legislative maneuver House leaders are considering to “deem” the Senate bill passed in the House without a direct vote.

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