



THE HEALTH CARE COMPACT WILL SADDLE UTAH WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEDICARE WITHOUT THE NEEDED DOLLARS

“Like any business worth \$13 billion that is looking at acquiring another \$2.3 billion in assets and liabilities, **Utah needs to know what we are getting into before we agree to take over Medicare from the federal government,**” says Jason Cooke, Medicaid Policy Director at UHPP, and former Director of Texas Medicaid.

Utah loses money under the compact – at least **\$350 million** in Medicare and Medicaid dollars in 2014 alone. “That is a huge financial liability. In any other circumstances, the Legislature would want to have a concrete plan for dealing with that liability up front,” said Cooke. “On the Medicaid side, since Utah already has one of the leanest programs in the country, we will leave ourselves with no choice but to **cut people off from life-saving services if we don’t have a plan going into the Compact. Our options for Medicare will be just as calamitous for Utah’s seniors.**”

“Our goals for Medicare should be reductions in cost growth and improvements in health outcomes,” said Cooke. “But we’ll never get there if we start out in the financial hole that the Compact would dig for Utah.”

The Utah Health Policy Project opposes SB208, Health Care Compact (Sen. Adams). It doesn’t make financial sense. It’s bad policy. It will hurt Utah patients and providers.

Vote NO on SB208