



## KALAMAZOO GAZETTE

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Friday, June 05, 2009

**Kalamazoo**

#### **Health plan is interesting but it creates more taxes**

State Sen. Tom George, R-Kalamazoo, is campaigning for governor and has proposed sweeping changes to Michigan's health insurance system. He should be applauded for advocating premium differentials for healthy versus unhealthy lifestyles.

On the other hand, his plans to subsidize health insurance for millions of people and to prevent insurers from recognizing the cost of unhealthy applicants' expensive pre-existing health problems

only passes the cost on to others. There is still no free lunch.

His proposed new taxes and fees -- the hospital bed tax, the Blue Cross ``assessment" and the tax on insurance claims -- will just be passed on to the rest of us in higher premiums. No thanks, Tom.

Jerome Kohel

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