

Sen. Kennedy touts Massachusetts healthcare reform as model for nation.

In an op-ed in the [Washington Post](#) (11/8, B7) Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-MA) wrote that "when businesses and workers, insurance companies and patients, Democrats and Republicans came together on a practical solution for" healthcare reform in Massachusetts, a "good omen occurred in 2006." Since then, the state "has expanded coverage to more than three-quarters of the state's uninsured," achieving "the nation's lowest proportion of medically uninsured people." Furthermore, "insurance premiums have dropped significantly" because "of the large increase in enrollment." Sen. Kennedy added that the state's "reforms demand responsibility from individuals, businesses and government alike, and the foundation on which the reforms rest is an effective set of protections against the denials of coverage that are so common elsewhere." Sen. Kennedy concluded that "the need for [national healthcare] reform is too great to be deflected or delayed," and the nation's success in "achieving broad health reform in Massachusetts" suggests "that most Americans will agree."