

# **OPINION: Employee Health Insurance plan shouldn't come at the expense of public employees**

The following was submitted to us by Rick Porter:

"I do have a question that is not answered in your article, **"Mayor Mitchell and Councillors Push To Rein In Employee Health Insurance "Budget Buster"**. I come at this as a taxpayer (I'm not a city employee), but I also have a long held belief that we should not solve a revenue concern on the backs of public employees. It would appear that the Mayor wants to use this 2011 state law to force the Public Employee Committee (PEC) into negotiations.

My question is this: if it is just to begin the negotiations process with no way of enacting a change in employee benefits, providers, or cost-sharing arrangement, what is the Mayor looking for to bring down costs that has the employees concerned? (there must be something) I wish the article was more balanced. In trying to form an opinion on this issue, this article only provided a "pro" argument for the mayor's position. It is important to know both sides of an issue." – Rick Porter