



***House Health Committee
Wednesday, January 17, 2018
Proponent Testimony
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Mr. Chairman and Members of House Health Committee:

I offer proponent testimony today on behalf of the Foundation for Government Accountability (FGA.) The Foundation for Government Accountability exists to strengthen communities and improve the lives of individuals and families by equipping policymakers with principled strategies to replace failed health and welfare programs nationwide.

With health care spending projected to continue to grow and personalized medicine becoming an everyday reality, creative and innovative ideas are needed in health care. These reforms must balance investments in research and development that bring innovative ideas to the market while containing costs whenever possible. Medical spending that does not bring added value, is money that is taken away from family budgets to pay for food, gas and education. For these reasons, H.B. 345 is worth serious consideration as states should be playing a leading role in thinking outside the box on health care.

The CURE bill appears to apply similar principles as the successful XPRIZE contest which was successful in incentivizing research and innovation for space exploration. Similar efforts in health care are just common sense, as our country spends over \$3 trillion every year on health care. Any resulting advances in medicine to cure a disease not only saves money, but lives.

Prizes such as these do have a proven history of leveraging both ingenuity and resources. The return for the public and private sectors could be dramatic.