



OFFICE OF

SB 2046

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**THE GOVERNOR**  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.,

June 10, 2010

TIME SIGNED: 8:36pm

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
AND MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA SENATE  
SECOND SESSION OF THE  
FIFTY SECOND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 2046:

This is to advise you that on this date, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 and 12 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to approve or object to legislation presented to me, I have VETOED Senate Bill 2046. Senate Bill 2046 would enact a major policy change with regard to health insurance regulations by allowing out-of-state companies, unlicensed in Oklahoma, to sell policies in this state. Some contend consumers would benefit from shopping for health coverage in other states, but consumer advocates have raised legitimate concerns to the contrary. For example, they say it would be easier for companies to cherry-pick low-risk customers that are more profitable to their bottom line while denying or pricing out of coverage higher risk groups. Firms could also establish their headquarters in states with the fewest regulations and mandated treatments, resulting in fewer consumer protections and less effective coverage. Policyholders who had complaints or concerns about their coverage would have little regulatory recourse in holding their insurer accountable and would ultimately be harmed by such an arrangement. While federal health care reform might provide future safeguards to protect consumers in such scenarios, those protections are still several years away. Accordingly, this legislation could prove costly to and is not in the best interest of Oklahoma consumers at this time, and such a major policy shift requires extensive study and deliberation and should not be enacted with little discussion in the final days of the legislative session.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

By D. North  
Date/Time 6-11-10

**RECEIVED**

JUN 11 2010

**OKLAHOMA SECRETARY  
OF STATE**