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UT Research Center to host forum about online insurance marketplace

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KNOXVILLE — As part of the new health care reform act passed by Congress last year, all states including Tennessee will soon be required to create “health insurance exchanges,” which are online websites where individuals and small businesses can compare and buy health insurance.

The University of Tennessee Center for Health Policy and Services Research will host a public forum to help the public understand this new requirement. The forum will also explore issues surrounding it and outline some alternatives to the state-based site.



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The 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. event will be held at the East Tennessee Historical Society, 601 S. Gay St. The forum is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at the State Street, Market Square and Locust Street garages and at street meters beginning at 6 p.m.

The event’s keynote speaker will be Brian Haile, director of the Insurance Exchange Planning initiative in the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration. Participants will also hear from representatives of small businesses, brokers and underwriters, health care providers and consumers and advocates. There will be a question-and-answer session.

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The event's planning partners include Cherokee Health Systems, Health Care 21, Knoxville Association of Health Underwriters, Knoxville Chamber, Knox County Health Department, Summit Medical Group, Tennessee Health Care Campaign and the UT College of Law.

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