



WHO CAN OWN A NEW HOSPITAL?



ANSWER: ANY INDIVIDUAL EXCEPT PRACTICING PHYSICIANS

The individual with the highest level of medical training and education of any individual in the world is banned from owning a hospital.



Lawyers can own their own practices. Can you imagine telling a realtor in order to sell a house they must work for a corporation? Or a mechanic they can't own their auto body shop? Or barring a chef from opening a restaurant? The United States has been recognized as the most entrepreneurial country in the world. Yet, it also has the most expensive healthcare in the world. Those with the most expertise in managing patient care cannot compete.

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

Perhaps the most egregious example of how health administrators and special interest lobbyists have wrested control of our nation's healthcare system away from physicians and patients may be found in the Affordable Care Act's arbitrary ban on the expansion of existing physician-owned hospitals and the ban on new ones.

Lobbyists, backed by the deep pockets of corporate interests and other hospital monopolies, pointed to limited studies that questioned the quality of care delivered by some physician-owned hospitals. In addition, lobbyists told Congress that physicians cherry picked certain patients and directed them to their hospital.



The ability of physicians to lead, administer and deliver healthcare in hospitals is essential to advancement of quality, cost and patient choice and offers a much-needed injection of competition into the healthcare system. PHA urges Congress to allow expansion of physician-led and owned hospitals to advance competition, increase high quality patient care and improve healthcare efficiencies.