

Readers' Views

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WRITE TO: PO BOX 1742, SAUNDERSVILLE
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Private sector's legacy usurped for health minister's ego

Dear Minister Aaron Motsoaledi,

National Health Insurance is a great wish list, a bit like an aspirant Miss South Africa saying she wants to educate every citizen on the planet and eradicate war and poverty during her one-year reign, "Medical aids face costs crunch as bill shakes up benefits, rates" (June 24).

If you persist with such a prematurely ambitious programme, with little concern for how and how much and how the reallocation of limited resources will affect our society and the irreversibility of the unintended and ill-considered consequences, the parts of the health system that work will no longer.

In such an unequal society, it would be immoral for you, as health minister, not to consider deeply the need for this type of intervention, but just as immoral to implement without consideration for the damage that will ensue.

South Africa needs to be able to effectively spend the 13.8% of the budget currently allocated to health. Your current failure in this regard,

coupled with that of your education counterparts, does not bode well for the private sector's success being usurped for your ego and legacy.

Dermot Quinn, on businesslive.co.za

Motsoaledi bad for health

Ron Derby's column "Time for our health minister to bridge the trust deficit" (June 24) refers.

Motsoaledi is a grave danger to people's health. He has a fixation that his way, whatever that might be, is the only way. That he is loath to disclose anything much says a lot about him and the ANC cabinet.

How can NHI possibly be affordable? Who is organising everything? Where are the competencies?

Not in the existing public health system, least of all at the ministry of health.

Geoff Coles, on businesslive.co.za

SA must face reality

South Africa simply cannot afford to ignore the fundamental shifts required in how investment and growth are viewed – and actioned.

Recent Ramaphoric efforts to root