

Some of the things you might like to mention are:

★ Section 75 still breaks the promises that the government made about not insisting on privatisation of the NHS. It allows no escape from privatising (except a couple of small areas).

★ Once it gets privatised, under European competition law there is no way out (except by massive compensation to the privatisers for lost profits).

★ It is undemocratic, not going through open discussion in both houses of Parliament.

★ It will fragment the service, different pieces being contracted out to different sets of providers.

★ The NHS is set up to plan health care for the nation as a whole and to deal with the health of the whole person; commercial competition only deals with the separate parts.

★ Commercial competition, far from being more efficient, will make the country bear the large costs of the competitive process itself.

★ Commercial companies are by their nature designed to make profit; they will be taking those profits out of the system, depriving the health service of money that could be spent on health care.

★ Choice will not be enhanced but be reduced by squeezing out smaller providers (e.g. doctors' groups that have lost contracts for out-of-hours services) because they don't have armies of accountants to prepare commercial bids.

★ Medical personnel will have to spend time playing accountants and sales people, reducing the time available for their primary medical functions.

★ The relationship of trust between doctors and patients will come under strain when there are financial considerations of the medical practice that can conflict with medical considerations.

★ The model for the competition and profit driven system is the US, which has one of the most expensive and inefficient but profitable systems.