

Second meeting this week for the special committee of lawmakers in Washington tasked with cutting over a trillion dollars from the federal budget. La Crosse congressman Ron Kind is watching the work of the debt supercommittee from the outside but says they can't get from here to there without dealing with soaring increases in health care spending. Kind says the key is for the federal government to change how it reimburses for health care. From paying for quantity of care to paying for quality. Fix that and get people back to work, Kind says, and the supercommittee's task becomes a lot less difficult.

If the supercommittee can't agree on at least \$1.2 trillion in cuts by Thanksgiving, automatic across-the-board cuts will kick in.