

A Superior System: Single Payer Legislation vs. Reconciliation Bill

Single-Payer Bill, H.R 676

Reconciliation Bill passed by the House 03/21/2010

Universal Coverage	Yes. Everyone is covered automatically at birth.	No. More than 23 million remain uninsured and tens of millions remain underinsured.
Full Range of Benefits	Yes. Coverage for all medically necessary services.	No. Insurers continue to strip-down policies and increase patients' co-payments and deductibles.
Savings	Yes. Redirects \$400 billion in administrative waste to care; no net increase in health spending.	No. Increases health spending by about \$1 trillion over 10 years. Adds further layers of administrative bloat to our health system through the introduction of state-based exchanges.
Cost Control / Sustainability	Yes. Large scale cost controls (negotiated fee schedule with physicians, bulk purchasing of drugs, hospital budgeting, capital planning, etc.) ensure that benefits are sustainable over the long term.	No. Uncontrolled costs ensure that any gains in coverage are quickly erased as government is forced to hike spending or slash benefits.
Choice of Doctor and Hospital	Yes. Patients would be allowed free choice of their doctor and hospital.	No. Insurance companies continue to deny and limit care and to maintain restrictive networks.
Progressive Financing	Yes. Premiums and out-of-pocket costs are replaced with a progressive income contribution. 95 percent of Americans pay less.	No. Continues the unfair financing of health care whereby costs are disproportionately paid by middle- and lower-income Americans and those families facing acute or chronic illness.