

BERNIE ON HEALTHCARE

“Healthcare in America must be a right, not a privilege.”

— BERNIE SANDERS

Medicare for All

Compared to every other modern industrialized country, our health-care system is ineffective, inefficient, and expensive. It fails to cover every U.S. resident and it wastes hundreds of billions of dollars on unnecessary administrative costs. And even those of us with employer coverage are increasingly burdened by premiums, co-pays, and deductibles that claim an ever higher percentage of our income. Medicare for All will increase efficiency, cover all residents, and improve health outcomes. And it will also reduce our spending on healthcare —both for the country as a whole and for us as individuals.

What it does

- ▶ Expand the existing Medicare program to cover all US residents, replacing the patchwork system of private health insurance we have today.
- ▶ Offer a comprehensive package of healthcare services that improves and enhances the current version of Medicare.
- ▶ Disconnects healthcare from employment. You would be free to change jobs, cut hours, start your own business, retire early, and not worry about health care.
- ▶ Achieve all of this more efficiently and at lower cost than our current private insurance programs.

Comprehensive Coverage

- Doctor’s visits
- Hospitalization
- Preventive Care
- Long-term care
- Mental health
- Reproductive health
- Dental
- Vision
- Medical supplies
- Prescription drugs

3 Decades of Leadership for Universal Healthcare

1987 As mayor of Burlington, Vermont, Bernie interviewed experts about Canada’s medicare system on his regular TV program, exploring how it delivered high quality universal care, at lower cost.

1991 “I think the solution must be a movement toward a single payer universal comprehensive health care similar to what exists in Canada.” Bernie stated in a CSPAN interview.

1991 Introduced H.R. 2530 in Congress, designed to assist and encourage universal comprehensive health care at the state level.

1993 Co-sponsored the American Health Security Act, which would have established universal single payer healthcare. Continued to co-sponsor the bill every year it is re-introduced for the next 12 years.

2004 Co-sponsored the Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act, which would have covered all residents with comprehensive healthcare benefits and no cost-sharing. Continued to co-sponsor the bill every year it is re-introduced for the next 3 years.

2010 Sponsored amendment to Obamacare allowing states to apply for a waiver permitting them to implement their own universal single payer systems.

2016 During his candidacy for President insisted that high quality universal healthcare is a right, pushing the goal of Medicare for All into the mainstream of American political debate.

2019 Introduces The Medicare-for-All Act of 2019 to establish a federally administered Medicare-for-all national health insurance program.

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