

What is Medicare for All?

The United States is the only country in the developed world that does not guarantee access to basic health care for residents. A single-payer, Medicare for All system would replace myriad corporate health insurance companies with a public, universal plan. Such a proposal exists in the Massachusetts legislature right now:

An Act Establishing
Medicare for All in Massachusetts
H. 1267, S. 766

Under this bill:

- every resident of Massachusetts would receive comprehensive cradle-to-grave healthcare coverage, regardless of employment or citizenship status, age, or income
- care would be based on need, not ability to pay
- employers would no longer be responsible for health care costs and coverage decisions
- equitable payroll taxes would replace regressive premiums, co-pays, and other out-of-pocket costs, creating savings for the bottom 90% of Massachusetts residents
- dollars currently spent on profits, marketing, and administration would go instead to actual healthcare



- Volunteer to organize your community
- Donate to support our staff and campaign
- Contact your state legislators! Ask them to cosponsor the Medicare for All bills in the House and the Senate: H. 1267, S. 766
- Contact your Congressional Reps to support national Medicare for All bill H.R.1976

www.masscare.org
1534 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02120
617-297-8011
info@masscare.org

Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Winning
Medicare for All
in Massachusetts

Everybody In, Nobody Out!

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The Massachusetts Health Care Crisis

Despite the image of universal healthcare, access to healthcare in Massachusetts is precarious, even for the middle class, and highly inequitable:

- 33% of middle-class families in Massachusetts with employer insurance devote **more than a quarter of all income** to health care
- 31% of lower-income adults in Mass go without necessary care or chose not to fill a prescription due to cost
- almost 9% of all deaths in Mass **could be prevented** by timely medical care. Black residents are more likely to die this way

Employers are rapidly shifting more healthcare costs onto their workers; the average employee in Massachusetts with an individual plan paid \$3,194 per year in premiums and deductibles – just to cover themselves. Employees who covered their families paid an average of \$10,649 per year.

A majority of Mass residents depend on their employer for health insurance. Given these significant sums, it's not surprising that medical debt is the leading cause of bankruptcy in Massachusetts.

** data from the 2021 MA Health Policy Commission Report*

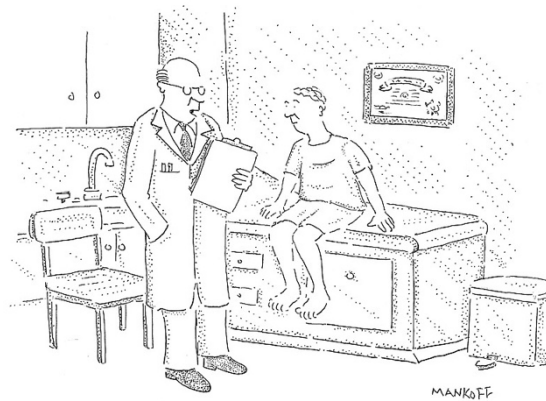
Medicare for All = More Choice

Unlike the restrictive provider networks that health insurance companies impose on us today, the Medicare for All Act would allow you to see the doctor you want and go to the facility of your choice.

And by de-linking health insurance coverage from employment, new possibilities open up to all workers, who can start a new business; change a job worry-free; or simply retire early.

Fair, progressive taxation means more money in the pockets of low and middle-income people. In our private healthcare system, many of us are just one major medical bill away from financial disaster.

Local and state budgets would also benefit. Essential public services, including for education and transportation, are constantly slashed to pay for rising healthcare costs.



"Uh-oh, your coverage doesn't seem to include illness."

SENIORS will receive more benefits than currently offered by Medicare, as the Massachusetts Medicare for All bill includes coverage for dental, vision, hearing aids and long-term care and eliminates out-of-pocket costs.

SMALL BUSINESS will better compete with larger firms; a fairer payroll tax replaces the burden of providing full healthcare benefits for employees. There will be huge savings for municipalities, which now pay employees' and retirees' health insurance. It will end the cycle of cities and towns slashing programs because of health care costs rising faster than limited tax revenue.

UNIONS can start bargaining for better pay, conditions, and benefits rather than fighting with employers over who will foot the bill for ever-rising health insurance costs. Striking workers don't need to worry about their health insurance being taken away.

