

What's Medicare for All?

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

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

How would we pay for it?

Massachusetts spends more on healthcare than nearly every state in the nation. Under Medicare for All, money currently spent on profits, marketing, and administration would go to actual healthcare, and also provide \$34 billion of savings in the first year alone.

- Employers and employees would no longer pay private companies for health care coverage
- Instead, employees would pay a 2.5% tax, excluding the first \$20,000 of earnings; employers would pay an 8% payroll tax
- Children, students, the unemployed, and retirees would not be taxed
- The bottom 90% of Massachusetts residents would save compared to what they spend now; only the top 10% would pay more

What's covered under Medicare for All?

- All healthcare services would be covered, including hospital care, outpatient care, reproductive care including abortion, dental, and long-term care – from cradle to grave
- No premiums, co-pays, or out-of-pocket costs
- Every Massachusetts resident would be enrolled - regardless of employment, citizenship status, age, or income

What Will Appear on My Ballot?

The question will read: *"Shall the Representative from this District be instructed to vote for legislation to create a single-payer system of universal health care, that would provide all Massachusetts residents with comprehensive health care coverage including the freedom to choose doctors and other health care professionals, facilities, and services and that would eliminate the role of insurance companies in health care by creating a publicly administered insurance trust fund?"*

What does a "Yes" vote mean?

By voting yes, you tell your State Representative to support Medicare for All legislation. Right now, 40% of the state legislature is in support.



Vote Yes

on

Medicare for All

November 8, 2022

www.masscare.org



The Massachusetts Health Care Crisis

41% of Massachusetts families struggle to afford health care – despite the fact that nearly everyone in the state has health insurance.

The consequences of our broken healthcare system are real. In Massachusetts, 9% of all deaths could be prevented by timely medical care. Black residents are more likely to die this way.

The problem is getting worse rather than better.

Healthcare costs are rising much faster than inflation, and employers are rapidly shifting the burden onto their workers; the average employee in Mass paid \$3,194 per year in premiums and deductibles – just to cover themselves. Employees covering families paid on average \$10,649 per year.

Health insurance companies continue to report record profits, while patients make difficult choices to go either without care or into debt; the leading cause of bankruptcy in Massachusetts is medical debt.

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

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

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

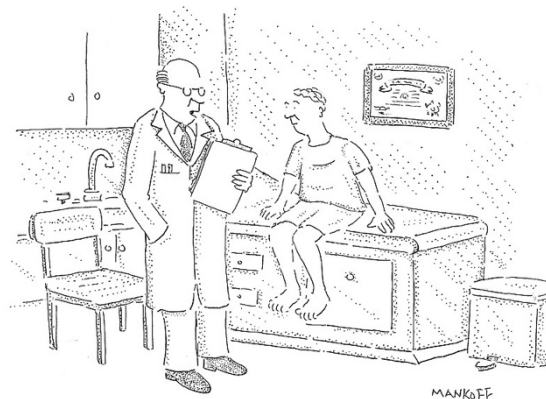
Medicare for All = More Choice

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.

With Medicare for All, health insurance would no longer be linked to your job. Workers would be free to change jobs they don't like, start their own business, 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. 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.

CITIES / TOWNS 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 With health insurance off the table, unions can focus bargaining on better pay, conditions, and benefits. Striking workers don't need to worry about their health insurance being taken away.

